THE Valley INDEPENDENT
An Edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Pens win

Ryan Malone scored two goals to lead the Penguins past Florida. **1B**

Post 22 aids Cal U

American Legion Post 22 in Charleroi has endowed a Cal U scholarship open to Charleroi Area students. **8A**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008 RELEVANT, RELIABLE WWW.VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 50¢

INSIDE TODAY

The king is dead

The world has lost a king and Emma Jene Lelik has lost a dear friend. **3A**

Help available

For 2007 income taxes, it's the little things that count. For valuable tax time information, check out Money Matters. **11A**

Obama on streak

Barack Obama cruised to victories in the Hawaii caucuses and the Wisconsin primary. **5A**

SPORTS

Kirschke staying

The Steelers have signed reserve defensive end Travis Kirschke to a two-year contract. **2B**

Bentworth falls

The Bentworth boys' basketball team bowed out of the WPIAL playoffs with a loss to Wilkinsburg. **1B**

DEATHS

- Estelle Brandtonies, 84, Scenery Hill
- James F. Harmon, 75, Perryopolis
- Keith W. Henderson, 56, Donora
- H. Mark Konstantinides, 58, Monessen
- Manuel "Pete" Lorenzo, 70, Donora
- Mildred Viola "Vi" Novosel, 77, Brownsville (Low Hill)
- Helen A. Venneri Thieser, 92, Belle Vernon

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WEATHER

Tonight Mostly cloudy 6°
Tomorrow Snow 25°
Page 2A

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Two sections, 20 Pages

TOMORROW

Read Valley Entertainment, which appears each Thursday in *The Valley Independent*.

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At least two arrested during daylong warrant sweep

Agents, cops hit Valley

The sweep targeted at least 14 sites in Donora, Charleroi Monessen and Monongahela.

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
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Agents from the FBI and Internal Revenue Service executed search warrants and seized property Tuesday as part of an ongoing investigation into suspected high-level drug dealers.

While official comment on the warrants sweep that lasted into the evening has been somewhat vague, the FBI acknowledged that at least two individuals were arrested and taken into federal custody. They were taken to U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh.

Investigators search a house Tuesday on Reed Avenue in Monessen during a Vallewide warrant sweep.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

FBI spokesman David Hedges said Tavius Smith, 29, of 679 Reed Ave., Monessen, and Jamie Lightfoot, 36, of 125 Castner Ave., Donora, will appear in federal court in Pittsburgh today to face various charges.

At approximately 9 a.m. Tuesday, the agents, assisted by state troopers from the Belle Vernon barracks and police officers from Monessen, Donora and Charleroi, served warrants at 14 locations in Donora, Monessen, Monongahela and Charleroi.

"This is part of an investigation that has been ongoing for at least a year," Trooper Joseph Christy said. "Right now, they are probably in the middle end of that investigation.

"What we're doing now is looking at financial records and things like that."

(See VALLEY, Page 2A)

Monessen sewage fees likely to rise

The extra money would be used to repair the aging sewer system.

By STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writer
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MONESSEN – With city council set to vote on a line usage fee tonight, sewage rates likely will rise.

Petaccia

Meeting tonight at 7, council is expected to impose a $60 per year line usage fee for the city's Mon Valley Sewage Authority customers, Mayor Anthony Petaccia said.

If approved, sewage bills would increase $15 per quarter. Authority general manager Tom Salak said the average bill is $55 per quarter. Under the plan, the city would impose the fees and the authority would handle billing.

Petaccia said he will vote against the proposal. The mayor said he supports a $20 per year fee. That amount was adopted by neighboring Donora borough.

"I personally feel $60 is too high for our residents," the mayor said.

Donora and Monessen leaders decided in December to levy line usage fees. The revenue will be used to cover repair costs to the century-old sewer lines. Each municipality will have its own fund for the money.

The increase in Donora represents an $5 extra per quarter per customer.

"The fees were supposed to be for emergency situations," Petaccia said.

Councilman Wayne Doptis said he supports the $60 fee because it will generate enough money to cover major projects.

"We know these lines are going to need repaired," Doptis said.

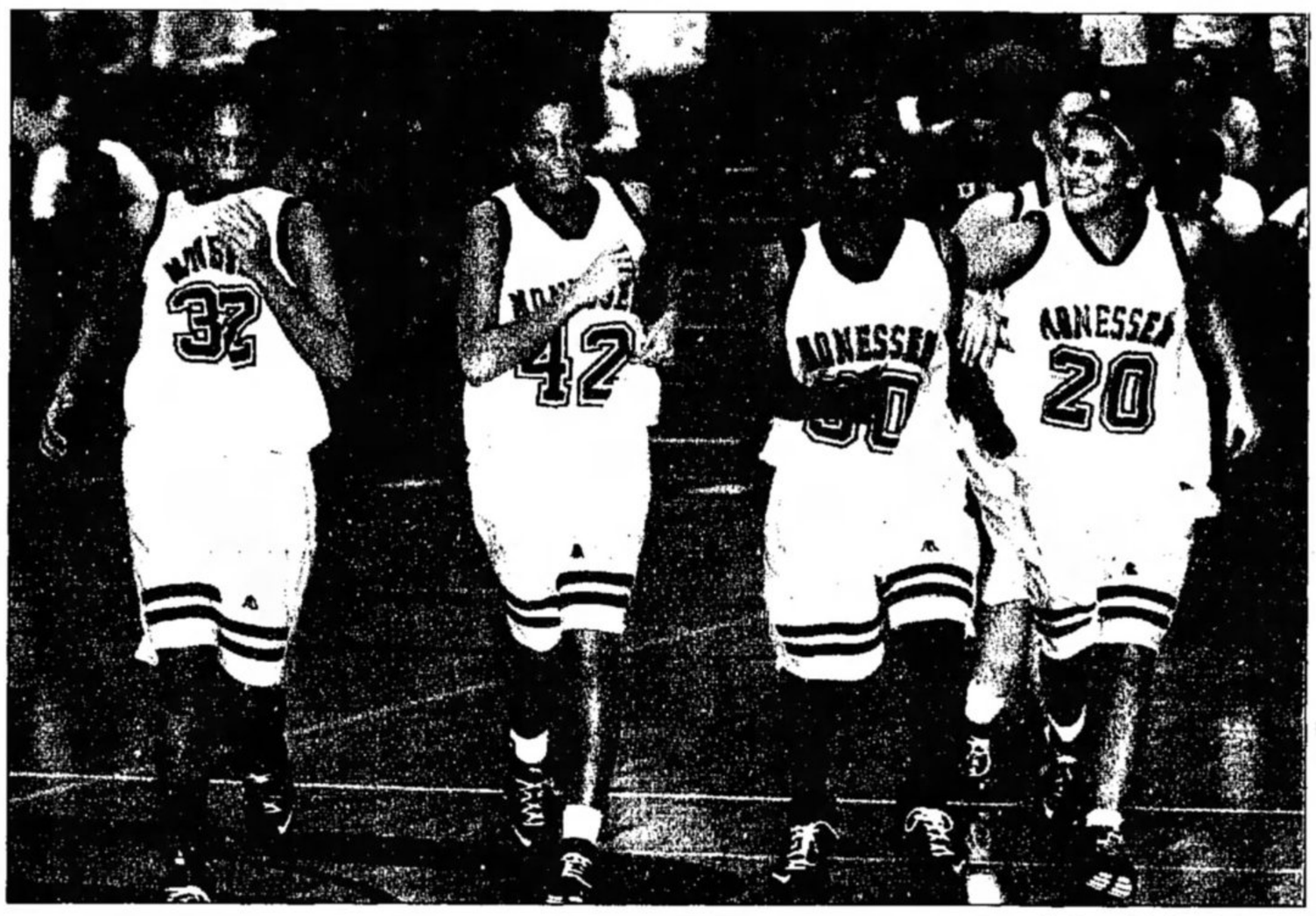
Both Monessen and Donora own their respective sewer lines. The sewage those lines carry is treated by the Mon Valley Sewage Authority, based in Donora. Salak said the authority serves about 3,600 customers in Monessen and 2,000 in Donora.

The authority hired Mr. Rehab to clean the sewer lines and videotaped the system to check for damage and other problems. The company is nearly finished in Donora and is working in Monessen.

Sewage customers in the communities could see more increases in the future. The sewage authority is waiting for the state Department of

(See FEES, Page 2A)

TITLE GAME NEXT FOR LADY GREYHOUNDS



Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

The Monessen girls' basektball team leaves the court after a last-minute victory over Vincentian Academy. From left are Samone Stepoli, Melissa Popovich, Christina Chukwuedo and Breane Minardi. The Lady Greyhounds qualified for the WPIAL Class A title game.

State property owners to save $185 from slots

With another seven casinos in the works, additional tax cuts could follow.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
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HARRISBURG – State gambling revenue should yield the average Pennsylvania homeowner a $185 property tax cut this summer, according to the governor's office.

The long-promised tax relief under the 2004 slot machine casino law will appear as a reduction in school tax bills, said Susan Hooper, a spokeswoman for Gov. Ed Rendell. Those bills are due in the fall.

"This is a historic occasion, and you should take great pride," state Gaming Control Board Chairman Mary DiGiacomo Colins told the House Appropriations Committee on Tuesday.

"I don't think 185 bucks will make anyone happy," said state Rep. Nick Kotik, D-Coraopolis. "But it's the old story that something is better than nothing."

Colins said the state's 55 percent tax on casino profits will provide $671.5 million for property tax cuts in the 2008-09 fiscal year. The tax cut is expected in July or August.

"Pennsylvania's gaming industry is thriving," said Colins, who reminded lawmakers that only seven casinos of 14 potential licensed facilities are open.

Three of the seven opened less than a year ago, and one of them – Hollywood Casino at Penn National racetrack near Harrisburg – opened only two weeks ago, she said.

Pittsburgh's Majestic Star Casino is scheduled to open in April 2009, Colins said.

Gambling regulators expect to decide by December whether to grant a license for a casino at the proposed Valley View Downs harness racing track in Lawrence County, Colins said. If so, that facility could open in January 2010, she said.

The central tenet of Rendell's 2002 campaign for governor was legalizing gambling to provide money to offset property tax cuts.

"The public's perception was that they were going to get significant property tax relief. They are actually getting minimal relief under this," said Stephen Miskin, spokesman for House Minority Leader Sam Smith, R-Punxsutawney.

Here's the state formula for allocating the 55 percent slots tax: 34 percent of the slots profits goes into a gaming fund, largely for property tax relief.

Twelve percent goes to a fund for horsemen, to help boost purses and invigorate the industry; 5 percent goes to a fund for development projects; and 4 percent is split between counties and municipalities where the casinos are built.

Flu packing Mon Valley Hospital ER

Area medical officials are encouraging hand-washing and flu shots.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
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A stronger, vaccine-resistant strain of the flu, coupled with normal winter illnesses, is testing the capacity of area hospital emergency rooms.

The emergency room at Monongahela Valley Hospital in Carroll Township is treating about 120 patients a day, spokesman Kurt Weber said. On average, the hospital treats 90 patients per day.

Many of the patients being treated in the emergency room have shown such symptoms of influenza as back pain, chills and fever, Weber said.

It's not just the number of cases, but the acuteness of the symptoms that has added to the workload of the emergency room. Many

(See FLU, Page 2A)

Kosovo future still uncertain

Watchers fear it will be more like East Timor than Montenegro.

By The Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia – On Sunday, Kosovo was born, becoming the 21st century's third new nation.

The two other infant states, East Timor and Montenegro, present it with starkly contrasting examples of the challenges that lie ahead.

Montenegro has prospered since it broke with Serbia nearly two years ago, despite the predictions of many observers that the tiny country was not economically viable.

But East Timor's independence was no cure for its accumulated economic and political woes. The country quickly descended into violent turmoil – rebels tried to kill the top two leaders last week – and now requires foreign troops to maintain peace.

Some analysts have already warned that Kosovo's future could more likely mirror the fortunes of faraway East Timor than its Balkan neighbor Montenegro.

Montenegro was an independent kingdom before World War I, then part of Yugoslavia until that state's disintegration in 1991. It remained joined with Serbia until 2006, when its 640,000 people held an independence referendum, and seceded peacefully.

Today, the economy is booming. Annual economic growth is nearly 7 percent and foreign direct investment in 2006 was $950 million, the highest, per capita, in Europe.

Kosovo – with a population of two million, 90 percent of whom are ethnic Albanians – was ruled for several centuries by the Ottoman Turks, then communist Yugoslavia, and finally Serbia.

Despite the inflow of billions of dollars since it came under NATO protection and U.N. administration following the 1999 war that forced the withdrawal of Serb forces, Kosovo remains one of Europe's poorest countries.

Communist-era infrastructure is collapsing and current unemployment exceeds 50 percent.

The obstacles Kosovo now faces are reminiscent of the problems encountered by postcolonial societies in Africa and Asia, said Damien Kingsbury, a professor at the School of International and Political Studies in Victoria, Australia.

Yesteryear

From left, Ken Barbao, Ray Garcia and Hyme Novak, all from Donora High School's Class of 1949, are pictured while they were serving in the military in Korea in 1954.

If you have a good old-time photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

Weather

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 25 Low 19	High 32 Low 22	High 35 Low 20	High 38 Low 22	High 38 Low 25

Flu (FROM PAGE ONE)

patients require further testing, increasing the wait time.

The hospital is full, Weber said, noting capacity is roughly 200 beds.

Emergency room director Dr. Brenda Walther said influenza is driving a part of the overcrowding. But winter illnesses in general are also a part of the cause. Staff members also are treating respiratory cases such as pneumonia and gastrointestinal ailments.

Medical experts have determined the current flu vaccine is effective on roughly 40 percent of current flu strains. Walther said the vaccine in 2009 likely will be adjusted to the new strains, but that won't ease existing crush.

"It tends to hit the very young and the elderly, who should get treatment soon rather than later," Walther said.

Walther said common sense, preventative steps are important. She said it is vital to thoroughly wash hands and to stay away from people exhibiting flu symptoms.

Allegheny County also is seeing an increase in influenza, said Karen Kunak, director, emergency services at Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Jefferson Hills.

"We routinely test patients who have symptoms," Kunak said.

Kunak said it is still important for people to obtain flu shots because there always are multiple strains of influenza during the winter months.

"We urge our patients and their families to protect themselves and others from the spread of influenza by picking up a free packet available in our emergency department waiting area. The packets contain hand sanitizer, tissues and a mask."

Fees (FROM PAGE ONE)

Environmental Protection to approve plans for necessary upgrades to the treatment plant.

Salak said the project will cost "in the millions."

Donora and Monessen have combined sewage systems, meaning that both wastewater and stormwater run through the same lines.

Because of that, heavy rain and snow cause the water treatment plant to overflow and release raw sewage into the Monongahela River.

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Valley (FROM PAGE ONE)

Until Hedges confirmed two people were taken into custody, the only FBI comment came from Pittsburgh spokesman Bill Cowley who said, "It's been an ongoing joint federal and state investigation, along with local authorities, in the general Mon Valley area, which includes Monessen."

Margaret Philbin, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Pittsburgh, said yesterday she was not at liberty to offer any comment on anything beyond the information being released by state police.

Agents at various locations were seen taking property, vehicles and cash.

Numerous targets were identified using various forms of investigation, which led to the search warrants.

According to state police, all of the warrants are federal and are sealed. Christy said that meant agents were seeking only property and financial records in Tuesday's sweep. He said once the warrants were unsealed, further charges would be announced.

The warrant sweep caused a stir in area neighborhoods as authorities in marked and unmarked cars blocked streets and, in some cases, kicked in doors to homes of suspected drug traffickers.

In Monessen, a portion of the 600 block of Reed Avenue was blocked for hours as agents and authorities went through

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

A state trooper with the forensics unit checks out a suspect's van on Reed Avenue in Monessen during a day-long warrant sweep in the Mon Valley.

Smith's residence, taking out items and loading them into a truck. The items confiscated from Smith included several vehicles, flat screen televisions, jewelry and a large amount of cash.

Residents stood in yards and on the sidewalk and observed from outside the yellow crime scene tape that crossed the street and closed off the area.

Similar scenes played out at Lightfoot's residence, along with other locations in Charleroi and Donora, as agents entered homes and carried out various items while neighbors watched from a distance.

Along with vehicles, jewelry, hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and other valuables, agents also confiscated numerous weapons.

Hedges said that yesterday's actions by federal, state and local authorities is "just the beginning of a long-term investigation" into the drug trade in the Mid-Mon Valley.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Todd Everly is the prosecutor in the case, Hedges said.

Donora Mayor John Lignelli welcomed yesterday's sweep, saying he felt the agents were going after "the top drug dealers in the area."

"I hope this is only the tip of the iceberg because too many families have been suffering by the plague of drugs in our community and the surrounding towns," Lignelli said.

"Too many young people have been drawn into the drug trade and it has to stop."

Cancer deaths rise in 2005 after two down years

By The Associated Press

ATLANTA – U.S. cancer deaths rose by more than 5,000 in 2005, a somewhat disappointing reversal of a two-year downward trend, the American Cancer Society said in a report issued today.

The group counted 559,312 people who died from cancer.

The cancer death rate among the overall population continued to fall, but only slightly, after a couple of years of more dramatic decline.

In 2005, there were just under 184 cancer deaths per 100,000 people, down from nearly 186 the previous year. Experts said it wasn't surprising that the rate would stabilize.

The cancer death rate has been dropping since the early 1990s, and early in this decade was declining by about 1 percent a year. The actual number of cancer deaths kept rising, however, because of the growing population.

So it was big news when the rate dropped by 2 percent in both 2003 and 2004, enough to cause the total number of cancer deaths to fall for the first time since 1930.

President Bush and others hailed that as a sign that federally funded research was making strides against the disease.

Valley briefs

Wrongful death trial under way

A federal court jury of six women and four men was expected to hear opening arguments today in a civil rights wrongful death lawsuit stemming from the state police shooting of a 12-year-old Uniontown boy.

Michael Ellerbe died after he was shot in the back by a state trooper as he fled on foot from a stolen sport utility vehicle on Dec. 24, 2002.

Ellerbe's father, Michael Hickenbottom, filed the lawsuit against the police because his son was not carrying a weapon.

A coroner's jury ruled the shooting justifiable after Trooper Juan Curry testified his gun discharged accidentally when he fell while scaling a fence during the chase.

His partner, Trooper Samuel Nassan, believing the youth had fired at Curry, shot Ellerbe.

Barges break loose in Clairton

The U.S. Coast Guard says six barges that broke loose from their moorings near US Steel's Clairton Coke Works are docked safely again.

It was much ado about nothing, the Coast Guard said.

Barges never struck supports for the Elizabeth-Glassport bridge around midnight, as previously thought, said Coast Guard Lt. Matt Meskun.

"There was no breakaway at all," Meskun said. "Nothing hit the bridge."

The barges floated about a quarter-mile down the Monongahela River, Meskun said. But nothing hit bridge supports, he said.

PennDOT closed the bridge for about two hours so it could be inspected, spokesman Jim Struzzi said.

Church wants out of local Presbytery

Another church in Allegheny County is seeking to quit the Presbyterian Church USA for a smaller, more biblically conservative group.

The Rev. Doug Portz of the Pittsburgh Presbytery says the congregation of the Fourth Presbyterian Church voted 27-2 on Sunday for the split.

Portz says the Pittsburgh church's pastor intends to remain with the national church and Fourth Presbyterian isn't asking to keep its property.

But Portz says a property settlement will be worked out before the presbytery votes on the church's request to leave the national denomination.

Three churches in the Pittsburgh Presbytery have now voted to join the conservative Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

More girls accuse boy of assault

Police in a Pittsburgh suburb say two more teenage girls have told authorities they were sexually assaulted by a teenage boy already accused of raping two other girls.

Upper St. Clair police on Tuesday said new charges against the high school freshman were filed last week.

He already was charged with rape, making terroristic threats and assault after being accused of raping two female students at Upper St. Clair High School and off campus.

The boy remains at a juvenile detention center.

Emma Jene Lelik/For The Valley Independent

Pictured at the last recital Rudy Stanish sponsored for two young organists this past summer are, from left, Bill and Judy Arrow, Andrew Solonichne and Stanish. Judy Arrow is Stanish's niece.

Columnist lost a special friend when world lost 'Omelet King'

Emma Jene **LELIK**

The world has lost a "king" and I have lost a dear friend.

Many people know of Rudy Stanish as the "Omelet King" who worked in the homes of the rich and famous in Manhattan, across the country and even in Europe.

I knew him as a dignified gentleman who cared deeply for the poor and disadvantaged; one who encouraged young musicians and never forgot his roots in the little village of Yukon.

His niece, Judy Arrow, introduced me to him when he first came "home to Yukon" to retire 16 years ago.

In the modest hilltop home he had built for his parents, I interviewed him for a full-page story in April 1992.

He revealed former employers like the Paul Mellons, Goldman Sachs, Richard Rodgers and Leonard Bernstein, but his eyes sparkled when he told about the charity events to which he was attached.

One of them was an annual two-day benefit for the Association for Retarded Citizens in Upper Pinellas, Fla. He kept that date for almost 40 years.

His invitations to me for various benefit omelet brunches and organ recitals promoting young talent were always hand written.

In April 2003, his invitation was to his own 90th birthday observance.

"I hope you can come help me celebrate," he wrote. "No presents, you there is all I need."

That event included a beautiful Mass at which his beloved pastor, the Rev. Paul Stivason, spoke eloquently of Rudy's good deeds.

Just after his 93rd birthday, Rudy presided at a benefit omelet brunch in Donora.

"I believe the Lord has a plan for us and I'll keep going until the 5:55 stops to pick me up," he told me then. (The 5:55 was a stop the train made when he came back to Yukon monthly to visit his parents.)

I was at the recital Rudy sponsored this past summer for two budding young organists - one from St. Timothy Church in Smithton and the other from his home parish, Seven Dolors, in Yukon. Under Stivason, the two churches now were sister parishes.

He phoned me in August, very emotional, to tell me of the sudden death of Father Stivason.

I wasn't aware Rudy had fallen and struck his head several weeks ago.

In Allegheny General Hospital he asked his niece, Judy, if she "had gotten hold" of me.

"He said, 'I just love her; she's so dedicated,'" Judy told me.

He died within two weeks. His only surviving brother, Mike, died just two days after him.

The Knights of Columbus stood as honor guards at his casket. The combined choirs from the sister churches gathered to sing a beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace."

The choir director noted: "He and Father Paul are probably having High Tea in Heaven right now."

His rosary beads were in his hands. His omelet pan with two eggs and a fork were visible in the casket. His immaculate white chef's coat and baker's hat hung nearby.

The 5:55 had come for my dear friend before he could celebrate his 95th birthday.

I'm surely going to miss him.

Consol cleared in Quecreek lawsuit

By CARL PRINE
For The Valley Independent
cprine@tribweb.com

A judge has cleared Upper St. Clair-based Consol Energy and three Indiana County firms of any legal culpability for flooding at the Quecreek Mine that nearly killed nine men in 2002.

But Allegheny County Senior Judge R. Stanton Wettick Jr. said Somerset County's PBS Coals, that corporation's subsidiaries and its outside engineers could be liable for punitive damages stemming from faulty underground maps submitted to state and federal regulators before excavation began.

Investigators blamed faulty maps for the inundation at Quecreek that focused international attention on a daring rescue former Gov. Mark Schweiker termed a "miracle." The men trapped underground for 76 hours were safely brought to the surface, one by one, while millions watched on live television.

Attorney Howard Messer, who represented eight of the nine men in the lawsuit, said he is "happy with the judge's decision."

Elizabeth Forward got suspected beef

It was the only Mid-Mon valley school system to get recalled product.

For The Valley Independent

One Mid-Mon Valley school district is returning more than a ton of potentially tainted beef it received.

The Elizabeth Forward School District is returning 2,800 pounds of beef it received from U.S Food Services, district spokeswoman Jane Milner said today.

An administrative hold was placed on the beef in question Feb. 1. Elizabeth Forward has not used the beef in question since then, Milner said.

The head of the Allegheny County Health Department said Monday there is little danger to anyone who ate the ground beef the U.S. Department of Agriculture recalled during the past weekend.

At least three school districts in the county received the tainted beef, and some of the meat was served to Pittsburgh Public Schools students before the recall, school district spokeswoman Ebony Pugh said.

Elsewhere in the Mon Valley, it doesn't appear that the recall affected any local school districts.

Food service directors in the Charleroi and Monessen school districts said they were alerted a few weeks ago by Nutrition Inc., the districts' food service contractor, about the beef recall.

"We were asked to double-check our supplies and we weren't affected at all," said Brenda Wineland, Monessen School District's cafeteria manager.

Monte Maugle, Charleroi's food service director, said his district received a call three weeks ago to check its supplies.

"We weren't affected at all, but it is a little scary," Maugle said.

In the Pittsburgh area schools, Pugh said there were no reports of illness and that the district stopped serving the meat more than two weeks ago when it was notified about the problem by school suppliers.

Wecht's ex-secretary to resume testimony

Prosecutors seek to prove ex-coroner used public resources to benefit his private business.

By JASON CATO
For The Valley Independent
jcato@tribweb.com

One of Cyril H. Wecht's former secretaries was scheduled to return for a third round of testimony today as prosecutors try to link travel invoices submitted to private clients to airline records that were presented in court Tuesday.

Eileen Young spent nearly four hours yesterday answering questions from Assistant U.S. Attorney James Wilson regarding faxes she sent from what was then the Allegheny County Coroner's Office to Wecht's private clients.

Prosecutors allege Wecht, 76, of Squirrel Hill used public resources and employees while coroner to benefit his private consulting business, Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates, and that he submitted travel invoices to private clients with fraudulently inflated air-fare costs.

Young's testimony followed that of a fraud analyst from US Airways' Winston-Salem, N.C., reservations center. Donna Williams spent three hours testifying about 29 of the 152 round-trip flights Wecht took between 2001 and 2005.

Williams mainly was questioned about prices Wecht paid for those flights, whether he was penalized for changing reservations or whether he received seating upgrades. Williams' testimony revealed Wecht often received complimentary upgrades from coach to first class.

Williams acknowledged that she did not know whether flights were for business or pleasure.

(See WECHT, Page 9A)

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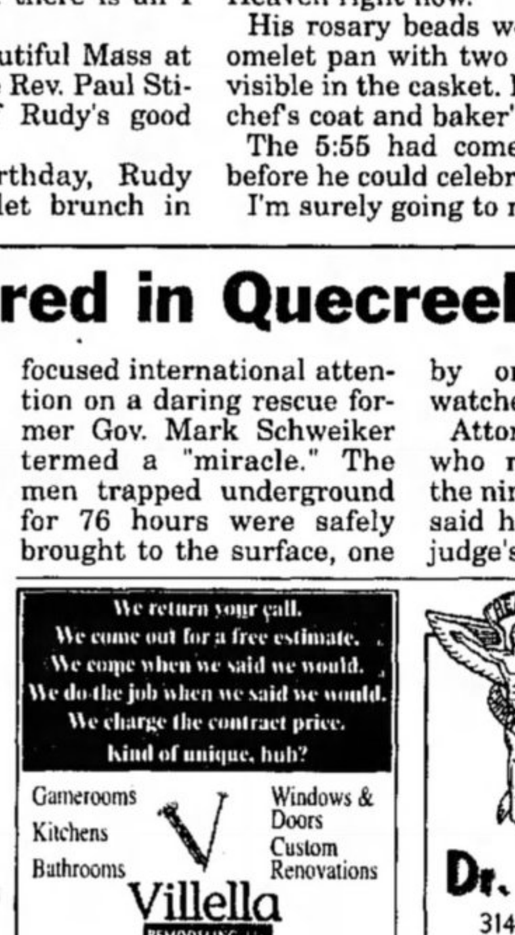
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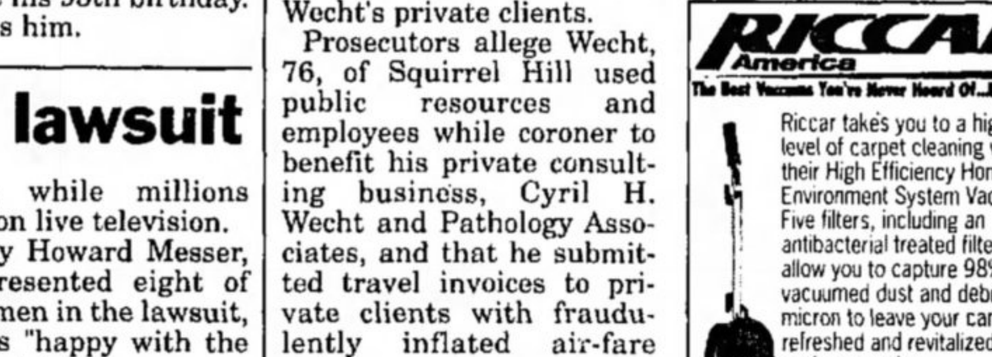
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RECORDS

DEATH NOTICES

BRANDTONIES — Estelle Brandtonies, 84, of Scenery Hill, on Tuesday, Feb. 19. Greenlee Funeral Home, Bentleyville.*

HARMON – James F. Harmon, 75, of Perryopolis, on Tuesday, Feb. 19. James C. Stump Funeral Home Inc., Rostraver Township.*

HENDERSON — Keith W. Henderson, 56, of Donora, on Tuesday, Feb. 19. Kegel Funeral Home, Finleyville.*

KONSTANTINIDES — H. Mark Konstantinides, 58, of Monessen, on Saturday, Feb. 16. Rhome Funeral Home Inc., Monessen.*

LORENZO — Manuel "Pete" Lorenzo, of Donora, on Tuesday, Feb. 19. James A. Rabe Funeral Home Inc., Donora.

NOVOSEL — Mildred Viola "Vi" Novosel, of Brownsville (Low Hill), on Friday, Feb. 15. Greenlee Funeral Home, Fredericktown.

THIESER — Helen A. Thieser, 92, of Monessen, on Tuesday, Feb. 19. Leonard J. Parzynski Funeral Home, Belle Vernon.*

PREVIOUS DEATHS:
FOWLER, Thais M.*
FRANKS, Nick A. Sr.*
PETERSON, Raymond E.*
TRAVERSARI, Perina*
*** See death notice**

Estelle Brandtonies
Scenery Hill

Estelle Brandtonies, 84, of Scenery Hill, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, February 19, 2008, at her home. She was born January 26, 1924, in Carmichaels, Pa., a daughter of the late Carl M. and Mary Hoge Biddle. Mrs. Brandtonies was a 1941 graduate of Cumberland High School and a 1945 graduate of Waynesburg College with a bachelor's degree in education. In1949 she started her teaching career at East Bethlehem High School and later taught at Washington High School. She taught for 33 years until her retirement in 1982. For over 50 years she was a member of the Emanuel United Presbyterian Church in Eighty Four, where she was an Elder and Sunday school teacher. Mrs. Brandtonies also was a member of the PSEAR and the Washington County Retired Teachers Association. She enjoyed crossword puzzles and needlepoint. On December 22, 1951 she married Howard R. "Huck" Brandtonies, who died July 26, 2004. Surviving is a daughter, Mary Rados, of Bentleyville; three sons, H. Carl Brandtonies and wife, Joyce, and Kurt Brandtonies and wife, Janet, all of Washington, Pa., and Kyle B. Brandtonies and wife, Nikki, of Canonsburg; three sisters, Katherine Nolf, of Crafton, Margaret "Peg" Knight, of Carmichaels, and Priscila McCaw-Jack, of York; three grandchildren, Jared Rados and Sydney and Taylor Brandtonies; and several nieces and nephews. Deceased, in addition to her parents and husband, is a brother, Arthur Biddle. Friends will be received Thursday, February 21, from 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m., and from 10 a.m. to noon, the hour of service on Friday, February 22, in the GREENLEE FUNERAL HOME, 619 Main St., Bentleyville, with the Rev. Gary Schneider officiating. Interment will be in Greene County Memorial Park, Waynesburg. Contributions may be made to: Bentleyville Public Library, 931 Main St., Bentleyville, Pa. 15314, or Hospice Care of The Washington Hospital, The Washington Hospital Foundation, 155 Wilson Ave., Washington, Pa. 15301. On-line guest book and personal condolences may be accessed at www.GreenleeFuneralHome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Thais M. Fowler
Elco

Thais Margaret Fowler, 90, of Elco, was called by God to take her home with the angels on Sunday, February 17, 2008. She was a member of the Roscoe Presbyterian Church, the American Legion Auxiliary, Post 801, and a 1935 graduate of California Area High School, where she served as treasurer and secretary of the Reunion Committee. Thais, a 70-year resident of Elco, known to all as just "Ma", was born October 3, 1917, and raised in Stockdale. She was a daughter of the late Viola Moore and Jerry Gollick and was one of the last remaining Stockdale families for which the town was named. Thais was married to Robert G. Fowler, who died in 1972 and who served as Chief of Police in Elco until his illness. Thais was a lifelong caregiver, not only for her husband, Bob, for 21 years, but, after his death, she cared for several other area people until she needed the care. Thais was loved and will be dearly missed by her daughter, Wendy Fowler Bielawski, with whom she resided; and her son, Robert G. Fowler Jr., of Roscoe; grandson, John Robert Bielawski and wife, Jennifer; great-granddaughters, Emily Megan and Sarah Elizabeth Bielawski, all of California, Pa.; and five grandchildren in the Tacoma, Wash., area, Richard Fowler and wife, Jennifer, Pam, John, Jim and Mike Fowler; one nephew, William Hess and wife, Nancy, of McMurray; and a special loving friend, Tammy Lynn Vadella, of Roscoe. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son, J. Thomas Fowler; a step-son, Robert Lee Fowler; and her loving aunt and best friend, Irene Hess. Friends will be received Wednesday, February 20, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. in the ED MELENYZER FUNERAL HOMES INC., Roscoe (724-938-9323), where American Legion services will be held at 6 p.m. Funeral services will be held Thursday, February 21, at 11 a.m. in the funeral home with Pastor Randy Landerman of Grace United Methodist Church officiating. Interment will be in Belle Vernon Cemetery. On-line condolences will be accepted at www.melenyzerfuneralhomes.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Nick A. Franks Sr.
Monongahela

Nick A. Franks Sr., 81, of Monongahela, died Sunday, February 17, 2008, in Canonsburg General Hospital. Born July 10, 1926, in Donora, he was the son of Dominic and Josephine Muia Franks. He worked at the former Mississippi Glass Factory in Floreffe and retired in 1982 from Corning Glass in Charleroi. Mr. Franks served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, where he was stationed in the South Pacific. He was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church in Monongahela. Surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Nick A. Jr. and Joan Franks and Richard and Jackie Franks, all of Tucson, Ariz., and Dennis and Laurie Franks, of Finleyville; a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Keith Todd, of Crown Point, Ind.; one sister, Grace Healey, of Monongahela; and 10 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Preceding him in death was his wife, Mary A. Poroda Franks, on February 6, 1995; two brothers, Vincent and Anthony Franks; and two sisters, Catherine Books and Ellen Spaziani. Friends will be received at the MARSHALL MARRA FUNERAL HOME, 216 Chess St., Monongahela (724-258-6767), from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday and 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in St. Anthony Catholic Church on Friday, February 22, at 10 a.m. with Fr. Joseph Feltz as celebrant. Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Carroll Township. Memorial contributions can be made to: Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45250-0301, ATTN: Gift Processing.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

James F. Harmon
Perryopolis

James F. Harmon, 75, of Perryopolis, died Tuesday, February 19, 2008. Complete arrangements will be announced by the JAMES C. STUMP FUNERAL HOME INC., (724-929-7934); www.jamesstumpfuneralhome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Keith W. Henderson
Donora

Keith W. Henderson, 56, of Donora, affectionately known to all as "Uncle Keith", died Tuesday, February 19, 2008, in Monongahela Valley Hospital. He was born March 1, 1951, in Milford, Del., a son of Beatrice Livingston Chamets, who survives and resides in New Castle, Del., and the late William D. Henderson. Surviving is his daughter, Kimberly Ashley, of Salisbury, Md.; four brothers, Jeff Henderson, of Ocala, Fla., Daniel Henderson, of Washington, D.C., James Willie, of Sacramento, Calif., and Michael Chamets, of McKeesport; seven sisters, Judy Shaw, Lettie Scott, Carolyn Wilkins and Shirley Willie, all of Salisbury, Md., Bonnie Zimmerman and Dorothy Kosa, both of Monongahela, and Kathy DiMieri, of New Castle, Del.; a stepmother, Evelyn Henderson, of Silwick, Md.; two grandchildren; and his caregiver, Pearl Williams, of Donora. At the request of the deceased, there will be no public viewing. Friends will be received from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, February 22, at the KEGEL FUNERAL HOME INC., Tim P. Kegel, Supervisor, 3560 Washington Ave., Finleyville.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Helen A. Thieser
Monessen

Helen A. Venneri Thieser, 92, of Belle Vernon, passed away Tuesday, February 19, 2008, in Victoria House 3, Monessen. Born October 26, 1915, in Belle Vernon, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Jennie Spadafore Venneri. A lifelong resident of Belle Vernon, Mrs. Thieser was a member of St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church in Belle Vernon, a graduate of Belle Vernon High School class of 1934, and she worked as a postal clerk at the Belle Vernon Post Office for many years. She also was a member of the former Belle Vernon American Legion Post 659 Ladies Auxiliary, an honorary member of the 99th Infantry Division Association and the National AARP. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Charlene and Leonard Povrzenich, of Belle Vernon; two granddaughters, Jill Moody and husband, Ray, of Belle Vernon, and Stacey Povrzenich, of West Newton; two great-grandchildren, Hunter and Tanner Moody; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, George J. Thieser, on Feb. 23, 1981; and two brothers William "Ducky" Venneri and Eugene "Vic" Venneri. Visitation will be held Thursday, February 21, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the LEONARD J. PARZYNSKI FUNERAL HOME, family owned and operated, 626 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon (724-929-6183). Services will be held Friday, February 22, at 10 a.m. in the funeral home with the Rev. Lawrence L. Manchas, pastor of St. Sebastian R.C. Church, officiating. Interment will take place in Belle Vernon Cemetery. Members of St. Sebastian parish will pray the rosary for the departed soul of Helen Thieser on Thursday at 3 p.m. in the funeral home. Condolences accepted for the family at the funeral home Web site, www.parzynskifuneralhome.com Thieser

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

H. Mark Konstantinides
Monessen

H. Mark Konstantinides, 58, of Monessen, died Saturday, February 16, 2008, while vacationing in Florida. He was born July 14, 1949, in Uniontown, a son of George H. Konstantinides, who survives, and the late Elsie Hallien Konstantinides. Mark was a graduate of Rochester High School with the class of 1967 and had attended the University of Tampa. Mark was most recently employed at the Mon Valley Country Club. With his outgoing personality, Mark made sure no one was a stranger for long in his company. An avid golfer and pool player, Mark was a member of the Monessen Elks Lodge No. 773 and had served as Exulted Ruler. He also was a member of the Monessen Eagles. In addition to his father, Mark is survived by his daughter, Nicole Marie; two brothers, Michael G. Konstantinides and wife, Sandra, of Redlands, Calif., and Frank N. Konstantinides and wife, Nancy, of Roseville, Minn.; one sister, Polly A. Robinson and husband, Vernon, of Medina, Ohio; eight nephews, two nieces, three great-nephews, and two great-nieces; and countless friends who meant so much to Mark. He touched many lives. Details of Mark's memorial service will be announced at a later date by the RHOME FUNERAL HOME INC., a Golden Rule Funeral Home, 1209 Grand Blvd., Monessen.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Raymond E. Peterson
Donora

Raymond E. Peterson, 82, of Donora, passed away Monday, February 18, 2008, in Havencrest Nursing Center Inc., Carroll Township. He was born in Donora on March 7, 1925, the son of the late Eric Werner and Elsie Gustava Peterson. Ray was a machinist with U.S. Steel, Donora Works and later worked for USX Research Center in Monroeville, from which he retired. He was president of the St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Council for many years and participated in many of the church's social groups. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Beck Peterson; and two brothers, John Harry Peterson and Carl Peterson. Survivors include one sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Janet and Antonio Miralles; two brothers, Melvin (Marge) Peterson, of Florida, and Walter (Doris) Peterson, of Ohio; and several nieces and nephews. Friends will be received Wednesday, February 20, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the PAUL MACIK FUNERAL HOME, 546 Thompson Ave., Donora (724-379-7000), where brief services will be held Thursday, February 21, at 9:30 a.m., followed by funeral services in St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, Donora, at 10 a.m. with the Very Rev. Igor R. Soroka officiating. Interment will follow in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora. A Parastas service will be held in the funeral home on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Perina Traversari
Carroll Township

Perina Traversari, 90, of Carroll Township, died Monday, February 18, 2008, in the Meadville Medical Center. She was born May 21, 1917, in North Charleroi, the daughter of the late John and Mary Nero Silvestri. She was a member of Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in Charleroi and the Confraternity of Christian Mothers. Surviving is one daughter and son-in-law, Sylvia and Dennis Livi, and one son and daughter-in-law, Raymond and Patricia Traversari, all of Meadville; four grandchildren, Megan Lucille Traversari, Ryan Ramo Traversari, Christi Ann Pendolino and husband, Samuel, and Michael Paul Livi and wife, Jennifer; and five great-grandchildren, Francesca Mary Pendolino, Nicholas Vincent Pendolino, Caden Traversari and Gianna and Gabrielle Livi. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Ramo Traversari, on Nov. 24, 1995; and three brothers, Silvestri, Dominic and Camell Silvestri. Friends will be received in the CARL J. SPALLINO FUNERAL HOME, 819 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, on Thursday, February 21, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Friday, February 22, at 10:30 a.m. in Mary, Mother of the Church with her pastor, the Rev. David F. Dzermejko, officiating. Interment will follow in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

In Memory Of
Carl Antonelli

In loving memory of our beloved son and brother, Carl Antonelli, who passed away one year ago today, February 19, 2007.
Little did we know that morning the sorrow the day would bring. The end was sudden, the shock severe, to part with you, the one we loved so dear. We did not know the pain you had or hear your final sigh, we only know that you had left us without a last goodbye. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. Many a lonely heartache after a lonely tear, you have passed beyond our love and care, but not beyond our thoughts and prayers. When days are dark and friends are few, dearly beloved how we long for you.
Sadly missed and loved by mother, brothers & sisters and co-workers

www.valleyindependent.com

ATTENTION ROUND HILL CEMETERY LOT OWNERS

Notice is given by Round Hill Cemetery that a seasonal clean-up will begin Saturday, March 1, 2008. Anyone wishing to reclaim his or her reusable decorations should do so before above date.

Thank You
Round Hill Cemetery Company

In Memory Of
Ruth (Pierce) DiGiacomo

In loving memory of
Ruth (Pierce) DiGiacomo, who passed away 1 year ago today, February 20, 2007.
Memories are treasures no one can steal, death leaves a heartache no one can heal.
Loved dearly in life and living yet, in the hearts of the ones who will never forget.
Sadly missed and loved by, Son, Daughter-in-law, Grandchildren, Brother, Sisters, Relatives and Friends.

POLICE LOG

Forward Township

■ Mark Allen Kinney, 47, of Dormont, was charged with DUI, driving while under suspension, careless driving, accidents involving damage to unattended vehicle or property and immediate notice of accidents to a police department as a result of a single vehicle crash 2:34 a.m. Monday on Route 51 and Roberts Hollow Road, police said.

■ James Michael Harper, 35, of 106 Pearl Drive, Clairton, was charged with DUI at 2:31 a.m. Monday on Bunola River Road, police said.

Rostraver Township

■ Marsden P. Balaska, 39, of 707 1/2 Henry St., Belle Vernon, was charged with retail theft of $38 in merchandise after an incident 2:50 p.m. Monday at Wal-Mart, police said.

■ Samantha Costabile, 20, of 150 Cemetery Road, Vanderbilt, was charged with retail theft of $37 in merchandise after an incident 4:05 p.m. Monday at Wal-Mart, police said.

NEWS

TODAY IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 20

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 20, the 51st day of 2008. There are 315 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight

On Feb. 20, 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard the Mercury spacecraft Friendship 7.

On this date:

■ In 1792, President Washington signed an act creating the U.S. Post Office.

■ In 1809, the Supreme Court, in United States v. Peters, ruled the power of the federal government is greater than that of any individual state.

■ In 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt signed an immigration act which excluded "idiots, imbeciles, feebleminded persons, epileptics, insane persons" from being admitted to the United States.

■ In 1938, Anthony Eden resigned as British foreign secretary following Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's decision to negotiate with Italian dictator Benito Mussolini.

■ In 1944, during World War II, U.S. bombers began raiding German aircraft manufacturing centers in a series of attacks that became known as "Big Week."

■ In 1965, the Ranger 8 spacecraft crashed on the moon after sending back thousands of pictures of the lunar surface.

■ In 1971, the National Emergency Warning Center in Colorado erroneously ordered U.S. radio and TV stations off the air; some stations heeded the alert, which was not lifted for about 40 minutes.

■ In 1987, Soviet authorities released Jewish activist Josef Begun.

■ **Ten years ago**: With the U.S. military poised to attack Iraq, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan began a final campaign to end the crisis over weapons inspections without bloodshed.

■ **Five years ago**: A fire broke out during a rock concert at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, R.I., killing 100 people and injuring about 200 others.

■ **One year ago**: In a victory for President Bush, a divided federal appeals court ruled that Guantanamo Bay detainees could not use the U.S. court system to challenge their indefinite imprisonment.

■ **Today's Birthdays**: Fashion designer Gloria Vanderbilt is 84. Actor Sidney Poitier is 81. Actress Marj Dusay is 72. Jazz-soul singer Nancy Wilson is 71. Singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie is 67. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Phil Esposito is 66. Movie director Mike Leigh is 65. Actress Brenda Blethyn is 62. Actress Sandy Duncan is 62. Rock musician J. Geils is 62. Actor Peter Strauss is 61. Rock singer-musician-producer Walter Becker (Steely Dan) is 58. Country singer Kathie Baillie is 57. Newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst is 54. Actor Anthony Stewart Head is 54. Country singer Leland Martin is 51. Actor James Wilby is 50. Rock musician Sebastian Steinberg is 49. Comedian Joel Hodgson is 48. Basketball player Charles Barkley is 45. Rock musician Ian Brown (Stone Roses) is 45. Actor French Stewart is 44. Actor Ron Eldard is 43. Model Cindy Crawford is 42. Actor Andrew Shue is 41. Actress Lili Taylor is 41. Singer Brian Littrell is 33. Actress Lauren Ambrose is 30. Actor Jay Hernandez is 30. Actress Majandra Delfino is 27. Singer-musician Chris Thile is 27. Actor Jake Richardson is 23. Singer Rihanna is 20.

From left, Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.,speaks at a rally Tuesday in Houston; Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., makes a campaign stop Tuesday in Parma, Ohio; and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., laughs during a news conference Monday in Houston.

Obama takes Wisconsin, Hawaii; McCain wins in Wisc., Washington

Clinton still looking for comeback.

By DAVID ESPO
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama cruised past a fading Hillary Rodham Clinton in the Wisconsin primary and Hawaii caucuses Tuesday night, gaining the upper hand in a Democratic presidential race for the ages.

The twin triumphs made 10 straight for Obama, and left the former first lady in desperate need of a comeback in a race she long commanded as front-runner.

"The change we seek is still months and miles away," Obama told a boisterous crowd in Houston in a speech in which he also pledged to end the war in Iraq in his first year in office.

Sen. John McCain, the Republican front-runner, won a pair of primaries, in Wisconsin and Washington, to continue his march toward certain nomination.

In a race growing increasingly negative, Obama cut deeply into Clinton's political bedrock in Wisconsin, splitting the support of white women almost evenly with her. According to polling place interviews, he also ran well among working class voters in the blue collar battleground that was prelude to primaries in the larger industrial states of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Clinton made no mention of her defeat, and showed no sign of surrender in an appearance in Youngstown, Ohio.

"Both Senator Obama and I would make history," the New York senator said. "But only one of us is ready on day one to be commander in chief, ready to manage our economy, and ready to defeat the Republicans. Only one of us has spent 35 years being a doer, a fighter and a champion for those who need a voice."

In a clear sign of their relative standing in the race, most cable television networks abruptly cut away from coverage of Clinton's rally when Obama began to speak in Texas.

McCain easily won the Republican primary in Wisconsin with 55 percent of the vote, dispatching former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and edging closer to the 1,191 delegates he needs to clinch the GOP nomination at the party convention in St. Paul, Minn. next summer. The Arizona senator also won the primary in Washington, where 19 delegates were at stake, with 49 percent of the vote in incomplete results.

In scarcely veiled criticism of Obama, the Republican nominee-in-waiting said, "I will fight every moment of every day in this campaign to make sure that Americans are not deceived by an eloquent but empty call for change."

McCain's nomination has been assured since Super Tuesday three weeks ago, as first one, then another of his former rivals has dropped out and the party establishment has closed ranks behind him.

Not so in the Democratic race, where Obama and Clinton campaign seven days a week, he the strongest black presidential candidate in history, she bidding to become the first woman to sit in the White House.

THE WORLD BRIEFLY

U.S. could shoot down spy satellite

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Navy heat-seeking missile is getting its first real-world use in an attempt to demolish a crippled U.S. spy satellite before the orbiting craft falls back to Earth.

The targeting of the satellite — which could come tonight — is not the mission for which this piece of the Pentagon's missile defense network was intended, however.

The attempted shootdown, already approved by President Bush out of concern about toxic fuel on board the satellite, is seen by some as blurring the lines between defending against a weapon like a long-range missile and targeting satellites in orbit.

The government issued notices to aviators and mariners to remain clear of a section of the Pacific Ocean beginning at 10:30 p.m. EST today, indicating the first window of opportunity to launch an SM-3 missile from a Navy cruiser, the USS Lake Erie, in an effort to hit the wayward satellite.

Having lost power shortly after it reached orbit in late 2006, the satellite is out of control and well below the altitude of a normal satellite. The Pentagon wants to hit it with an SM-3 missile just before it re-enters Earth's atmosphere, in that way minimizing the amount of debris that would remain in space.

Shorter Army tours likely

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soldiers heading to war this summer are likely to see their tours shortened from 15 months to 12 months, even if troop cuts in Iraq are suspended in July as expected, the Army's top general said Tuesday.

Gen. George Casey said that while his forces are strained by nearly seven years at war, the Army can maintain 15 combat brigades in battle for at least a couple of months after July while military commanders assess the situation in Iraq.

"Fifteen deployed brigades, for us, is sustainable for a bit longer, certainly enough to cover what I would think the length of this pause might be," said Casey, the Army's chief of staff.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Gen. David Petraeus, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, have both said they favor a suspension in troop cuts after July to assess security gains before more forces leave the country.

While neither Casey nor Petraeus will say how long that suspension may last, Casey says it likely will not hamper his move to 12-month tours.

"A month or two (pause) wouldn't have a significant impact on what we're talking about doing," he told a small group of reporters in his Pentagon office.

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

Two players hit 'Cash 5' jackpot

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Two players matched all five winning numbers drawn in Tuesday's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" game and will each receive $210,652.

Lottery officials said 131 players matched four numbers and won $267 each; 5,227 players matched three numbers and won $11 each; and 66,562 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

The Valley Independent LOTTERY RESULTS

PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS

DAY PICK 3:	6-1-5
NIGHT PICK 3:	6-0-6
DAY PICK BIG 4:	9-4-2-8
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	4-5-3-3
TREASURE HUNT:	5-7-8-12-19
CASH 5:	1-22-27-33-41
MATCH 6:	14-18-27-40-42-47

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS

DAY PICK 3:	0-1-8
NIGHT PICK 3:	2-5-0
DAY PICK 4:	1-9-1-5
NIGHT PICK 4:	9-1-1-9
ROLLING CASH 5:	5-10-16-22-35

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS

DAILY 3:	8-8-7
DAILY 4:	9-8-2-8
CASH 25:	1-2-3-7-14-15

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

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- R. Hanson – "I can't begin to tell you how pleased I am with Hydro-Sil... the first time in 25 years our electric bill was reduced... saved $635, over 40%!"
- A. Gonsalves – "We replaced 20 electric heaters with Hydro-Sil. Wow — what a difference! We received a substantial reduction of our electric bill. I have recommended Hydro-Sil to many people!"

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3' 750 watts	75-100 s.f.	$189	
2' 500 watts	50-75 s.f.	$169	
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110 VOLT PORTABLES (Thermostat Included)	Discount Price	Quantity
5' Hydro-Max 750-1500 watts	$229	
4' Convector – Dual watt	$179	
3' 750 watts – Silicone	$179	
$18.00 shipping per heater	$	
Total Amount	$	

1184314

THE Valley INDEPENDENT
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OUR OPINION

A chance to build a new Cuba

OH, WHAT AN opportunity. But will Cubans seize it?

Fidel Castro, the island nation's dictator for the past 49 years, said Tuesday he will not seek "re-election" when the Cuban National Assembly meets Sunday. Now 81, Mr. Castro, in power since 1959, cited his lengthy illness.

The Cuban story is well told and long bemoaned. Castro and his brother Raul (who has run Cuba in his brother's stead for the past 18 months) came to power after waging a three-year guerrilla war against dictator Fulgencio Batista.

In an April 1959 trip to the United States, the Marxist-Leninist claimed he was no communist, would honor foreign property ownership, maintain free elections and be a U.S. ally. The month prior, he had begun summary executions of "war criminals." A month later he would seize large tracts of private property. In short order, Cuba was a U.S.-threatening Soviet satellite.

But in the mess that Cuba long has been there is opportunity.

Two-thirds of Cuba's 11.2 million citizens were born after the revolution. Some would argue that because Fidel Castro is the only leader they've known, Cubans are very compliant sheeple. But there is a restlessness in Cuba, fueled by socialism's failure that, perhaps, could spark democratic reforms.

Here's hoping courage can overcome the short list of Castro's likely successors — a group that does not exactly inspire confidence.

ANOTHER VIEW

Williamsport Sun-Gazette on Gov. Rendell's budget proposal:

There's a lot of temptation in Gov. Ed Rendell's proposed 2008-09 state budget proposal.

There is a $400 check to 475,000 working poor families as part of an economic-stimulus package.

There is a 6-percent increase in basic education subsidies, the largest such increase in two decades.

There is health care for everyone.

Of course, these temptations carry a cost. And the bill is a whopper. Rendell's proposal increases state spending by 4.2 percent to $28.3 billion in the year that begins July 1.

Even though the budget carries no increases in traditional taxes, common sense tells us taxpayers can't afford these well-intentioned ideas. Perhaps if 40 percent of the budget weren't being spent on public assistance, they could afford these things. Perhaps, in addition to spending to fit the governor's wishes, there should be a re-evaluation of current spending priorities.

This is especially true when you consider some of those $400 checks will go to people who currently don't pay taxes. And many of the 800,000 people who don't carry health insurance are young and choose not to carry it.

This is not to say the governor's budget focus is all wrong.

We heartily hope he will push to privatize the turnpike to raise revenues to solve the state highway funding shortage.

He is right on the mark in pushing an alternative energy strategy that includes a turning away from foreign oil in favor of ethanol and biodiesel resources.

The governor's proposal is a solid starting point, but the road to consensus is a long one because of an illogically large spending increase and reluctance to do away with previous pet priorities in order to fund new ones.

And if we can afford a 4.2-percent increase in state spending, then this budget should come with a reduction in the 9.9-percent corporate net income tax. The tax is about 3 percent too high and stands as the largest reason for Pennsylvania's national reputation of being a tough state to do business in.

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, *The Valley Independent*, Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valleyletters@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.) While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Bad-news Congress

Charley **REESE**

The Congress of the United States is without a doubt, to use one of the vice president's favorite phrases, the most incompetent, inept, cowardly and corrupt legislative body on the world stage.

The members of Congress do not do their duty. One reason they don't is because they are the biggest time-wasters on the planet. Flipping around C-SPAN the other night, I saw a congressman take the floor to lament the fact that there was a shooting in a small Missouri town. Dearly beloved, there have been shootings in small Missouri towns long before Missouri's most famous son, Jesse James, roamed the state. And lest anyone take this as a slam against Missouri, there have been shootings in small towns in every state of the union. Such affairs are not worthy of Congress' time.

Then another congressman took the floor to eulogize a colleague who just died. Heck-fire, man, go to his funeral or send his family a sympathy card. Don't waste time spreading heifer dust on the floor of the House. Those who knew him will either lament or smile, depending on their opinion of him, and the vast majority of Americans who never heard of him don't give a flip. Americans die every day, and death is a matter for private grief, not official congressional bloviating.

You see, Congress, which takes more time off than most malingerers, doesn't do its job even when it does show up for work. The members have a budget to pass, and they almost never pass it on time. They have oversight duties, which they rarely perform because they are too busy grandstanding about matters that are none of their business, such as the health habits of baseball players or cigarette smokers.

Generally speaking, Congress doesn't show up on Mondays or Fridays, which leaves its members only three days a week to get their work done. Of course, they claim to be working even when they are not present, but what they mean is they are out campaigning and raising money for their re-election. If they really were working, then the legislative process would move faster, instead of like a molasses-coated ox trudging along in mud up to its belly.

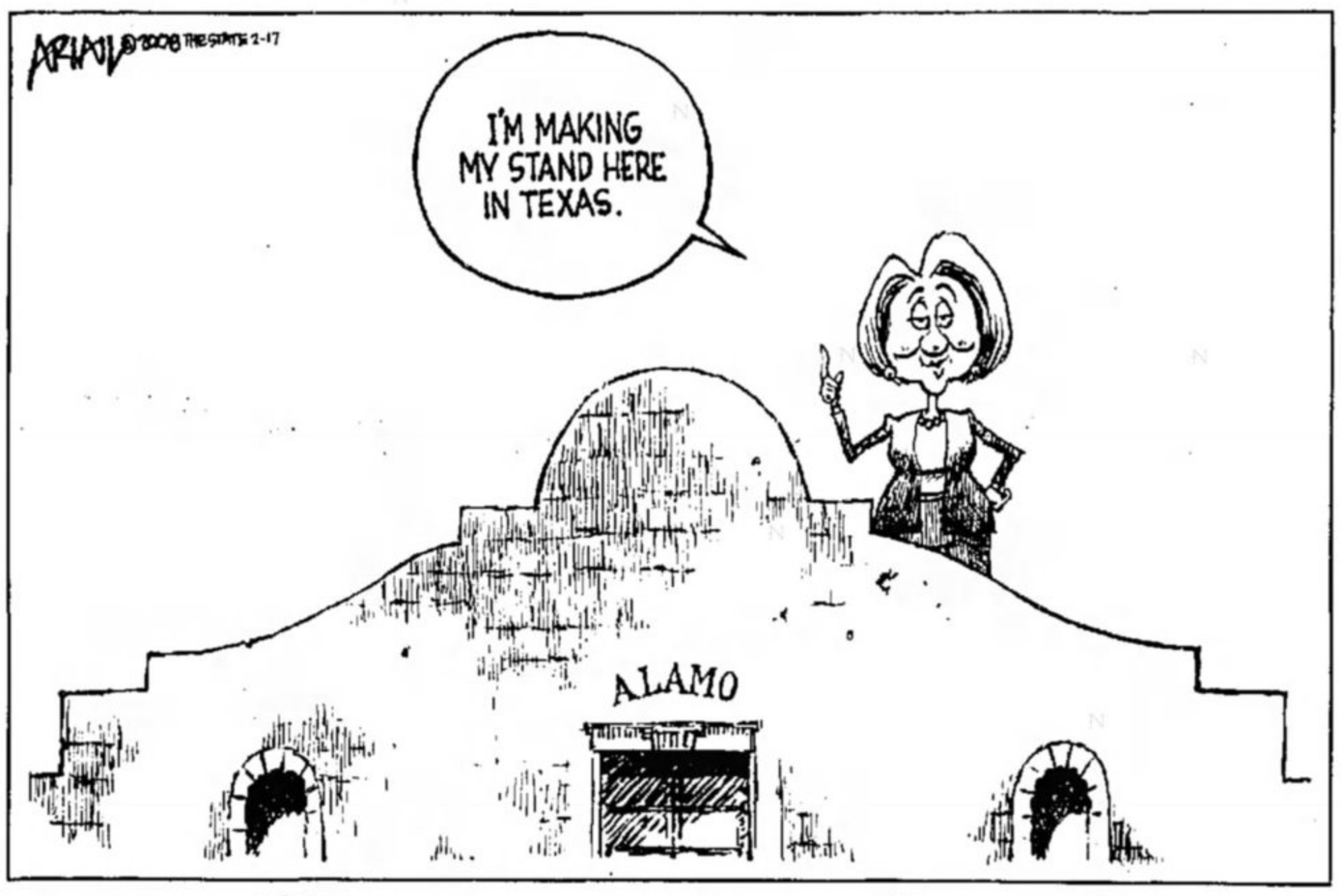
The spectacle of the members of Congress jumping to their feet to applaud President George W. Bush at his State of the Union speech tells you all you want to know about their intelligence and courage, both of which are virtually absent. Bush's speech should have been called the state of his ego and delusions.

At the most recent congressional election, the American people gave the Democrats a majority in both Houses and learned rather quickly that a majority of Democrats are just as cowardly and worthless as a majority of Republicans. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has turned out to be an airhead, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid a timid whiner. Neither of them could lead a two-float parade.

The Constitution quite plainly spells out a limited number of areas that Congress has the authority to act. The operative word is "limited." Congress does not have the authority to legislate on any topic it pleases. One of its most important duties is to set the budget. People often blame the president because he submits a budget. That is only a formality, however. The president has no power to authorize any spending or to levy taxes. The budget is the job of Congress, so you can squarely and fairly blame Congress for every penny of the mammoth budget deficit.

Congress also has the sole duty to declare war, a duty it has shirked since 1941. The authority to declare war does not mean passing a resolution authorizing the use of force. No such authority is needed if American forces are attacked, and if they are not attacked, no president has the authority to launch an undeclared war of aggression.

These 435 members of the House and 100 senators are (expletive) away your birthright. You ought to be angry about that.



Stop treating Iraq like Japan

Diana **WEST**

Condoleezza Rice and Robert Gates penned an op-ed this week to say it's time to negotiate "a basic framework for normalized relations with the Iraqi government." This, they wrote, will "set the basic parameters for the U.S. presence in Iraq," which must extend past 2008 "for progress in stabilizing Iraq to continue."

Has the administration's policy of "surge till they (Iraqis) merge" changed to "keep surging because they're not merging"? Unclear. At the same time, the new framework they envision will not set troop levels, make security commitments or authorize permanent bases in Iraq — "something neither we nor Iraqis want," they added.

Me neither. U.S. forces should not ordinarily be engaged in nation-building — sorry, nation-stabilizing — nor should they ever be engaged in Sharia-nation-stabilizing, which is my core problem with our overall strategy in constitutionally Sharia-supreme Iraq as well as constitutionally Sharia-supreme Afghanistan (not to mention the constitutionally Sharia-supreme Palestinian Authority), but that's another column.

Meanwhile, Rice and Gates are calling for more of the same — for U.S. "help" to fight Al Qaeda, develop Iraq's security forces and halt Iranian interference. After that? They write: "In addition, we seek to establish a basic framework for a strong relationship with Iraq, reflecting our shared political, economic, cultural and security interests."

If your next question is, "What 'shared' political, economic, cultural and security interests?" I second it. The only unanimous expression of Iraqi political will I know of was a parliamentary vote in favor of Hezbollah in its 2006 war with Israel. Economically speaking, Iraq is not only an increasingly enthusiastic OPEC player, it enforces the Arab boycott on Israel. And when it comes to "common" cultural interests, Iraq is, as mentioned above, a Sharia-supreme state where one writer was found guilty of "blasphemy." Given the Shiism Iraq shares with nuke-seeking Iran, how many security interests does that leave us in common?

Not that many. Maybe this accounts for the secretaries' flat tone of understatement regarding a U.S.-Iraq future. It certainly speaks to my own concern that when we finally walk away from "democratic" Iraq, we are unlikely to leave behind a staunch U.S. ally. If — when? — this comes to pass, what lessons will we take away?

Frankly, the same lessons we should have taken into Iraq. Writing in the winter 2007-08 issue of The Objective Standard, John David Lewis offers an illuminating analysis of another U.S. occupation, this one thoroughly successful, in Japan (1945-1952). President Bush, of course, frequently refers to the democratization of Japan as a model for the democratization of Iraq (and the wider Islamic Middle East). But, as Lewis' must-read essay makes historically clear, the president has been comparing apples and oranges.

It isn't just that the total defeat and utter devastation of Japan nullifies the comparison with Iraq (which it does). There is something else. There is the completely different U.S. approach to Japan's animating, warlike state religion of Shintoism, which, not incidentally, bears striking similarities to the animating, warlike state religion of Islam.

In 1945, our government was of one mind regarding state Shintoism. Lewis quotes Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, who wrote: "Shintoism, insofar as it is a religion of individual Japanese, is not to be interfered with. Shintoism, however, insofar as it is directed by the Japanese government, and as a measure enforced from above by the government, is to be done away with. ... There will be no place for Shintoism in the schools. Shintoism as a state religion — National Shinto, that is — will go. ... Our policy on this goes beyond Shinto. ... The dissemination of Japanese militaristic and ultra-nationalistic ideology in any form will be completely suppressed."

And it was, with fabulous results.

Obviously, there have been no analogous U.S. efforts to "de-jihadize" Islamic public culture even as the United States has spent lives, limbs, money and years trying, essentially, to stop the jihad in the Islamic Middle East — not even, to take a manageable example, in the U.S.-funded Palestinian Authority, where state-run media continue to incite Islamically motivated violence against Jews and Americans. And then there are all those U.S.-fostered constitutions that enshrine Sharia law — just the sort of ideological concession our forebears would never have made.

NEWS

The Auxiliary of Mon-Vale Health Resources is selling ticket in the Monongahela Valley Hospital Gift Shop for its Soup-er Luncheon. The menu comprises soup, salad, sandwich, dessert and beverage. The event will take place 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 13 in the Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center. Parking is free. Proceeds will benefit patients and visitors at the hospital. For information, call (724) 258-1234. Preparing, from left, are event chairwomen Lillian Nard, Maureen Lusk and Dorothy Paterline.

GEIBEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following were named to the second-quarter honor roll at Geibel Catholic High School:

Grade seven

High Honors – Briannah Armstrong, Katherine Catanzarite, Amanda Hanabeck, Michael Jacobyansky, Tasha Lauffer and Peyton McIntyre.

Honors – Nathan Mimis, Dylan Morrell and Dakota White.

Grade eight

High Honors – Catherine Brown, Katherine Chambers, Daniel Dix, Krysta Ermine, Krista Gonofsky, Carolyn Hanabeck, Stephanie Hart, Carly Herman, Lauren Mahokey, Cole Michael, Elias Nahhas, Nicholas Oppman and Adam Siecinski.

Honors – Shannon Courie, Marissa Galloway, Patrick Herbert and Sara Monahan.

Grade nine

High Honors – Patrick Blackstone, Courtney Bryan, Jessica Burns, Annie Caccimelio, Christina Crouse, Dayne Detweiler, Christopher Erdely, Christian Henckel, Joseph Kania, Leonard Krolik, Sarah Kushnar, Hanna Lazuka, Ryan Lucostic, Kaila Maruniak, John McGrogan, Lyric Pieri, Kate Pokol, Brandon Seehoffer, Anthony Speeney, Ester Suchevits, Patrick Urosek, Jacob Yuras, Ashley Zieglar and Kelsey Zimcosky.

Honors – Jace Blout, Craig Fusina, John Gabriel, Kathryn Gallo, Erica Kaczmarczyk, Kacey Leo, Patrick Manna, Laura Mechling, Taylor Nowicki, Andrew Polechko, David Rulli, Edward Schweiss, Brennan Sopko and Michael Spegar.

Grade 10

Highest Honors – Katherine Baluch, Breanne Dowden, Kelsey Guest, George Morrell, Emily Necciai, Anna Palumbo-Opacic and Rebecca Sandor.

High Honors – Megan Beck, Hee Jin Cho, Shawn Erdely, Natalie Hickle, Ninna Jenkins, Zachery Keslar, Gina Martin, Anthony Paratore and Kaelyb Suchevits.

Honors – Natalie Alvarez, Aryn Askin, Elizabeth Brown, Carly Chiarochi, Alyssa Dedola, Marney Hillen, Max Kovalchuk, Megan Mammarella, Dustin Ryan and Torrie Smith.

Grade 11

Highest Honors – Michael Betler, Eric Ghinassi, Emily Solan, Alexa Szelc and David Tiberi.

High Honors – Christine Brun, Nina Martinelli, Katherine Molchan, Alexandria Robinson, James Ross, Nicholas Seese and Audrey Sheperd.

Honors – Jessica Altobelli, Jerrod Goretsky, Kathleen Jackson, Melissa Martin, Rachael Rysz, Mary Beth Saluga, Julianne Speeney and Joshua Suppa.

Grade 12

Highest Honors – Stephen Andursky, Abbey Askin, Sarah Erdely, Tyler Erdely, Anna Fiano, Luke Fragello, Chelsea Garlick, Nelson Gaydos, Morgan Ghinassi, Assunta Goretsky, Sarah Guynn, Adam Heinbaugh, Alan Kolonsky, Ryan Kossol, Ji Sun Lee, Alyssa Maczko, Frank McGrogan, Peter Merranko, Meredith Palko, Marissa Soisson, Julia Vidonish, Mia White and Jonathan Wilson.

High Honors – Ashley Baker, Christopher Baker, Diana Boyer, Hannah Brown, Joseph Brun, Anthony Clement, Marc Detisch, Gregory Gartecki, Mark Gira, Samantha Hawk, Billy Jenkins, Marygrace Kosport, Peter Krause, Michael Laick, David Mahokey, Christopher Nickelson, Edward Spotts and Erio Vignali.

Honors – Nicole Ardabell, Nam Sik Cho, Anna DeLattre, John Fidel, Brittany Jordan, Gemma Koury, Michael Loftis, Daniel Manna, Philip Mariani, Elise Mudery and Stephen Mullaney.

PENN STATE DEAN'S LIST

The following were named to the fall dean's list at Penn State:

Allenport – James Horrell.

Belle Vernon – George Aul, Dianna Barger, Lee Bethem, Courtney Connolly, Kathleen Crawford, Shawn Dilmore, Nicole Doctorick, Janelle Fluker, Zachary Gargan, Christopher Giordano, William Hugland, Sarah Krepps, Robert McIntyre, Jamie McKevitt, Kayla Nuccetelli, Jeffrey Parente, Christina Pocky, Jill Robbins, Eliot Schmidt, Charles Snyder, Annie Walkush, Ashley Winn, Samantha Yantko and Brandon Wozniak.

Bentleyville – Victoria Atkinson, Evan Bell, Kadie Vanderman and Bradley Parola.

Brownsville – Danielle Davison, Amanda Fuller, Keren Hall, John Marcolini, Matthew Morosky and Eryn Thomas.

Charleroi – John Danek and Matthew Yavorsky.

Coal Center – Matthew Porter and Stephen Molek.

Donora – Andrea Clark.

Elizabeth – Gina Anselmo, Derek Biddle, Nicole DeMarco, George Emsurak, Sarah Fiore, Christopher Gioia, David Hart, Opeyemi Kemiki, Kelly Krznaric, Alexander Kunig, Brianne Nero, Evan Rothey, Brooke Sanderson, Mandy Stricklin, Julie Suchy, Erin Svec and Theodore Werner.

Ellsworth – Casey Owen and John Watkins.

Fayette City – Samantha Biksey, Michelle Farkas, Patricia Lofink and Carly Staley.

Finleyville – Dana Breiter, Patrick Combes, Kevin Hasco, Andrew Mousetis, Devin Spratt, David Tullai and Laurel Upton.

Monessen – Kathryn Francia, Kelly Kadish, Lindsay Keffer and Benjamin Vivio.

Monongahela – Alyssa Fine, Juraj Hric, Brooke Ingram and Ryan Sarver.

New Eagle – Toni McLaughlin and Deanne Trumpie.

Perryopolis – Marsha Adams, Danna Fecek-Krukowsky, Ashley Madorma, Roslyn Parshall, Chelsy Santoro, John Shandor and Catherine Zimmerman.

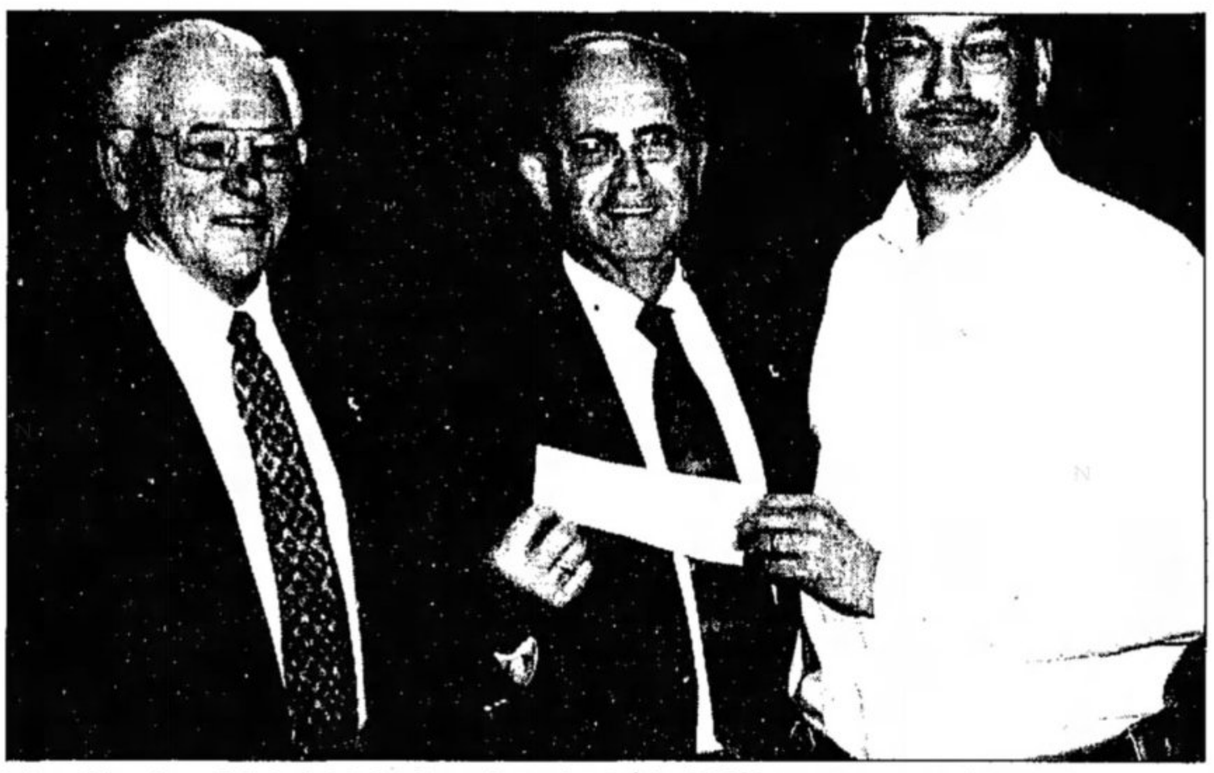
Smithton – Andrea Gemmell and Julie Moore.

Sutersville – Stacey Federoff.

Venetia – Hilary Bishop, Benjamin Cain, Garbrielle Carbonara, Rachel Cichowski, Matthew Defazio, Erica Ehland, Erin Franks, Carolyn James, Kimberley Jewison, Caitlin Knoll, Justin Kovac, Patrick Maher, Jocelyn Main, Marissa McCauley, Timothy McNeal, Matthew Mowrey, Nicholas Peranteau, Alex Pini, Kristin Rackley, Jonathan Rigatti, Matthew Schwartz, Gregory Smith and Adam Steinberger.

West Brownsville – Stephen Yarnevich.

West Newton – Catherine Balko, Christopher Balogh, Shawn Capenos, James Davis, Ross Mickley and Nathan Portik.



The Charleroi I.O.O.F. Lodge donated $1,000 in memory of member Raymond J. Spence to the J.K. Tener Library, Charleroi, Above, from left, are Leonard Santini, ledge secretary; David Metz, noble grand, and Richard Mudrick, library board chairman.

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NEW

MAKING THE GRADE

Clarion sets dean's list

The following were named to the fall-semester dean's list at Clarion University of Pennsylvania:

Coal Center – Stephanie Lawrence.

Finleyville – Jessica Brooks and Jessica Coffield.

Venetia – Darla Kurnal, Kayla Taylor and Erin Weaver.

Scholarships available

Young people in Westmoreland and Fayette counties can explore the hospitality and tourism industry in the Laurel Highlands over the summer.

The Talented 250 Project is a workforce development initiative and scholarship program developed by the Westmoreland Fayette Workforce Investment Board.

The program is open to residents of Westmoreland and Fayette counties ages 16-22.

The students will work 160 hours from May 30 to Sept. 8. They will be eligible for $100 or $500 scholarships based on employer performance reviews and completion of project requirements.

Hospitality and tourism businesses interested in participating should contact Kate Martin at (724) 755-2145 or kate@talented250project.org.

Application materials are available at www.talented250project.org.

District 12 offers scholarship

The Pennsylvania Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc. is offering the District 12 Tribute to Women Scholarship.

The fund provides financial assistance, based on need, to people seeking additional education to advance their careers or to re-enter the job market.

Organization membership is not a requirement of eligibility.

Candidates must, by March 15, submit required forms and provide detailed descriptions of career plans and how additional schooling will help achieve their goals.

For applications, mail requests to Reita Melvin at 986 Route 40, W. Claysville, PA 15323 or call (724) 663-7628.

Gessner joins honor society

Duquesne University student Elizabeth Marie Gessner, of Charleroi, has been inducted into the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Morgan makes Waynesburg list

Amanda J. Morgan, of Perryopolis, has been named to the fall-semester dean's list at Waynesburg University.

A junior management major, she is a Frazer High School graduate.

Sabo selected for Civic Week

Sabo

The Northwestern University Center for Talent Development has selected Anna J. Sabo, of Charleroi, to attend Civic Week in San Francisco.

She will work to aid hungry and homeless people March 24-30.

The program works with shelters, soup kitchens, and education, housing, and employment agencies.

In March, Sabo attended Civic Week: New York City Education and Youth Development, where she tutored public school students.

A Shady Side Academy Senior School student, she serves as an admissions ambassador, math tutoring program coordinator, Robotics Club co-founder, school newspaper assistant editor, Hillman Center for Performing Arts Series head usher and orchestra piano accompanist.

She is a student associate to the mathematics department and computer science department.

She is active with the math team, Model United Nations, chamber choir and Charleroi Leo Club.

She is the organist at St. John Episcopal Church in Donora, a cantor at Mary Mother of the Catholic Church in Charleroi and pianist at The Grand Residence at Upper St. Clair.

She volunteers at Monongahela Valley Hospital and The Residence at Hilltop.

She previously participated in HOBY and the Western Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Program.

She finished second in the 2007 and 2006 Lions Young Ambassador of the 21st Century for District 14M competition and the Lion's Young Leaders in Service Gold Award for 2007 and 2006. She twice received Tribune Review Outstanding Young Citizen awards and is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

She is the daughter of Paul and Pat Sabo, of Charleroi.

Louttit makes Waynesburg list

Ellen R. Louttit, of Charleroi, was named to the dean's list at Waynesburg University. A freshman, history, secondary education and citizenship major, she is a Charleroi Area High School graduate.

Include last names in news items

When submitting Making the Grade notices, include the first and last names of all people listed.

American Legion Post 22, Charleroi, has endowed a Cal U scholarship. Above, from left, are Commander Walter Stelma, Cal U President Angelo Armenti Jr. and Cal U emeritus professor and Post 22 member Richard Nemec.

Scholarship fund established

American Legion Post 22 in Charleroi has endowed a fund that will award scholarships in perpetuity to Charleroi Area High School students who go on to attend California University of Pennsylvania.

The post generated more than $10,000 over the past two years through member contributions, fundraising events and women's auxiliary activities.

Students can apply for the scholarships through Charleroi Area High School guidance counselor Gina Cotton.

To contribute to the Post 22 fund, contact Lynn Baron at (724) 938-1541 or e-mail baron@cup.edu.

Post 22 Commander Walter Stelma and Cal U emeritus professor Dr. Richard Nemec led the effort.

Six Cal U alumna received national certification. Seated, from left, are Carol Manack, Cathy Hayden and Jody Grove and, standing, Jamie Pomponio, Marsha Ferrara, and Barbara Pepper.

Six Cal U graduates certified

Cal U conducted a reception to honor six graduates who have been certified by the National Board Certification for Teachers from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Only 368 educators in Pennsylvania have been certified. The alumnae comprise Charleroi Area School District teachers Cathy Hayden, Barbara Pepper and Jamie Pomponio and Belle Vernon Area teachers Marsha Ferrara, Carol Manack, and Jody Grove.

ON CAMPUS AT CAL U

Grant received

Mitchem

Mueller

Earth science faculty members Drs. Jamie Mitchem and Tom Mueller received a $35,196 grant from The Center for Rural Pennsylvania for a project titled "Survey of Emergency Management and Preparedness Agencies in Pennsylvania's Rural Counties."

The project will examine the state legislation regarding emergency management and produce an online survey targeting emergency managers in each Pennsylvania county and select county managers in surrounding states.

Mitchem and Mueller will submit a report that includes emergency management policy recommendations.

Program takes on new name

The Adventure of the American Mind program at California University of Pennsylvania has been renamed the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources program. The change came after it received a $300,000 grant from the Library of Congress.

The program has conducted the Veterans Oral Histories Project. Through the project, middle school, high school, and university students and staff, obtain oral history from area residents involved in America's armed conflicts.

Murtha secures grant for Cal U

Cal U has received a $958,805 grant through U.S. Rep. John P. Murtha, D-Johnstown, to establish the Teaching with Primary Sources program.

Program accredited

The Cal U graduate psychology program received full accreditation through Dec. 31, 2012, from the National Association of School Psychologist. The program had for two years been operating under conditional approval.

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Bill's Feed & Garden Center 130 McKean Ave Charleroi 724-483-4921
Brizes Kennels 412-384-6445 www.brizeskennel.com
Monongahela Animal Hospital 724-258-8406 321 Hazelkirk Rd. Monongahela

2008 Pet Superstar Voting Rules:
- Each vote is 25 cents*
- Deadline for first round of voting is Friday, February 22 at 4:30 pm.
- You may vote for as many pets as many times as you wish.
- Ballot stuffing is entirely appropriate!
- Voting for your own pet is absolutely acceptable. So is bribing your friends to vote, too!
- Fill out your voting ballot completely so that your votes will go to your chosen pet(s).
- You may also visit www.valleyindependent.com/petsuperstar to download a voting ballot and view the contestant photos online. Votes must be brought in or mailed to The Valley Independent.
- After the deadline, all votes will be tallied to determine the top vote getters.
- Votes are not cumulative and will start over during Round 2.
- The top 50 vote getters will be featured in our Second Round of voting appearing on Tuesday, March 4. Voting will then continue until Friday, March 14 at 4:30 pm.
- The top 25 vote getters will be featured in our Third Round of voting appearing on Tuesday, March 18 and will then continue until Friday, March 28 at 4:30 pm. This voting round will determine the winners.
- The top 3 photos receiving the most votes will appear in the newspaper on April 8, 2008. First place is $250.00, Second place is $150.00 and Third place is $50.00.
- All proceeds from the Pet Superstar Contest benefit the Valley Independent Newspaper in Education program.

*25 cent voting fee consists of a voluntary 20 cent donation. If you wish to not donate, you may vote for 5 cents per vote. Votes will be tallied at the end of each voting round based on 5 cents per vote.

Westmoreland County Community College
seeking nominations for
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Westmoreland County Community College will present a Distinguished Alumnus Award to recognize and honor a WCCC alumnus who has earned distinction through professional accomplishments, significant community-based service, and support or service to WCCC.

Selection Criteria:
- Nominees must have earned an associate degree, diploma or certificate from WCCC or completed 30 credit hours at WCCC.
- The award will be given based on a nominee's professional accomplishments, significant community-based service, and support or service to WCCC.
- The nominee must be able to attend the WCCC commencement ceremony, Thursday, May 8 at 6 p.m.

For a nomination form, visit www.wccc.edu or call 724-925-4087.

Nominations must be submitted no later than Monday, March 10, 2008.

WCCC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity college.

NEWS

BUILDING BUSINESS

Jeff Pikulsky/The Valley Independent

Improvements to the exterior facade of the building that now houses the new River House Cafe have changed the landscape of Charleroi's central buisness district.

Food, atmosphere bring patrons to River House

Charleroi restaurant will host its first live band Friday night.

By CHARLENE COOPER
For The Valley Independent

The owners of Salatinos in Charleroi, Michael and Lori Coury, recently expanded their horizons and opened a new business in the former Ducoeur's Furniture building at 506 McKean Avenue.

River House Cafe opened its doors for business Feb. 6, after four months of renovations. According to owner and manager of River House Cafe, Lori Coury, the food at River House is very different from what they serve at Salatinos.

Salatinos is an Italian restaurant known for its pizza and pasta dishes. River House has a chef on staff, Chris Karwoski from South Hills, who comes in early every morning. Many things are homemade by Karwoski, including all of the dressings and the sauces.

"We take a lot of pride in the quality of our food," Lori said. "We serve everything from steak to salmon to fresh tuna."

Lori's personal favorite is the Thai chicken wrap, but she said the most ordered item on the menu would have to be the pistachio crusted salmon, veal burgundy or chicken cordon bleu.

Favorite desserts include homemade creme brulee, cheesecake and homemade peanut butter pie. No matter what the customer orders, Lori said the portions are very big and the prices are reasonable.

Hanging on the walls customers can see black and white pictures of Charleroi from the 1900s that were donated by a longtime resident.

Lori said they add to the vintage atmosphere she and Michael were trying to create. She said they are even encouraging customers to bring in vintage pictures of the Mon Valley so they can be hung on the spaces left empty on the walls.

"We want them to feel an ownership of the place," she said.

Customers look at the pictures and try to figure out where they were taken Lori said. Kids also think it's cool to see how the town used to be, she added.

Adding to the vintage look is the bar, handcrafted by Don Destefano, who also constructed everything wooden in the building. Lori called the bar "the diamond of this building."

The bar is open all the time, with 10 different beers on tap, including micro beers. They also prepare specialty drinks such as margaritas and daiquiris.

There are also two plasma televisions at the bar, in addition to the other three in the building, for customers to watch sporting events. River House purchased the whole ESPN package in order for customers to enjoy a wide variety of sporting events.

River House is having its first live band in house Friday. Klicks is a classical rock band from the Mon Valley that plays music from the '70s and '80s.

"We're very selective with our music," Lori said.

Country, oldies, jazz, blues and classic rock are some of the types of music that Lori said will be played at River House.

River House has a set of rules for customers to follow. Lori said they have the right to refuse anyone service at any time. The biggest rule is no headgear is to be worn at any time, which means no hats or bandannas. After 8 p.m. customers are asked to dress in business casual attire, which means no tennis shoes. Collared shirts are also preferred.

"We want to provide a nice atmosphere, a safe atmosphere, for our customers and our employees," Lori said. "It's a beautiful place. We put a lot of money into the renovations and we want to keep it this way."

Amy O'Neill, of Elizabeth, is the head waitress at River House. She said the restaurant is nice because it is something fancy for Charleroi and that everyone she has spoken with has described the food as high quality.

O'Neill said her favorite food is the chicken salad pita because it's quick and she's always on the run, but everything is good.

Kelly O'Brien, of Charleroi and Trish Clemmer, of Donora, met recently at River House for a girls' day out. They have eaten at Salatinos before, but it was their first time at River House.

Each had an entree but they shared the spinach dip, which they agree was the best they've ever had. The friends couldn't stop raving about the creme brulee that they ordered for dessert.

"We got a lot for the money," O'Brien said.

Clemmer said she plans on bringing her mother to the cafe to eat. She also said she wants to come back Friday night for the band.

Christine Rauchfuss, of Bentleyville, and George Toomey, of Bethel Park, heard about River House from friends who told them about the good food.

While Rauchfuss tried the island chicken, Toomey ate the black and bleu burger.

Toomey said the best thing about the restaurant is definitely the food, but the inside is also nice. He the food and the service are good and the prices are very reasonable.

"We want to make sure that we had something for everybody and everyone's taste," Lori said.

Committee chairman curbs questions on gaming board

GOP lawmaker says a key Democrat engaged in a "whitewash" on behalf of gaming panel.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
bbumsted@tribweb.com

HARRISBURG - A GOP lawmaker charged that a key House Democrat engaged in a "whitewash" to limit a Gaming Control Board official's testimony Tuesday about why it awarded a license to a Scranton businessman later charged with perjury.

Rep. Douglas Reichley, R-Allentown, was upset after being cut off by House Appropriations Chairman Dwight Evans, D-Philadelphia, as he attempted to question Gaming Control Board Chairwoman Mary DiGiacomo Colins.

Reichley wanted to know about the board's December 2006 decision to issue a license to Louis DeNaples, owner of a Poconos casino who stands accused by a Dauphin County grand jury of lying to the gaming board about his ties to Mob figures.

DeNaples maintains through a spokesman that he is innocent.

Reichley said he is trying to find out whether the board was notified by its Bureau of Investigations that the bureau had referred suspicions about DeNaples' testimony to the state police.

Evans interrupted Reichley's questioning and said he had instructed another committee with gambling oversight to look into it later.

He told Colins her answer must be brief.

"Unfortunately he (Evans) has become part of the whitewash the board is engaged in," Reichley told reporters later.

"Chairman Evans won't let us question the gaming board. House Democrats should join with House Republicans in demanding the gaming board come clean about these very troublesome questions," he added.

Evans told reporters he was limiting all members' questions because of time constraints.

During Colins' testimony, Reichley said he wanted to ask her about the extent of the board's background check on PITG Gaming owner Don Barden, whose Majestic Star Casino is scheduled to open in spring 2009 on Pittsburgh's North Shore.

That's when Evans cut him off, accusing Reichley of "stretching it."

The *Tribune-Review*, a sister publication of *The Valley Independent*, reported in October 2007 that the board's only question about Barden was his $11.1 million in gambling losses at casinos over the previous five years.

The state police and FBI maintain the gambling board's investigators are not law enforcement agents.

And because of that, they say, they couldn't pass along information about a criminal case to board investigators.

Colins, a former Philadelphia judge, said the law does not preclude state police from telling the board it was investigating DeNaples, even if they had to hold back details.

Wecht (FROM PAGE THREE)

Some of the destinations, such as Florida and New Jersey, corresponded with cases about which Wilson later questioned Young.

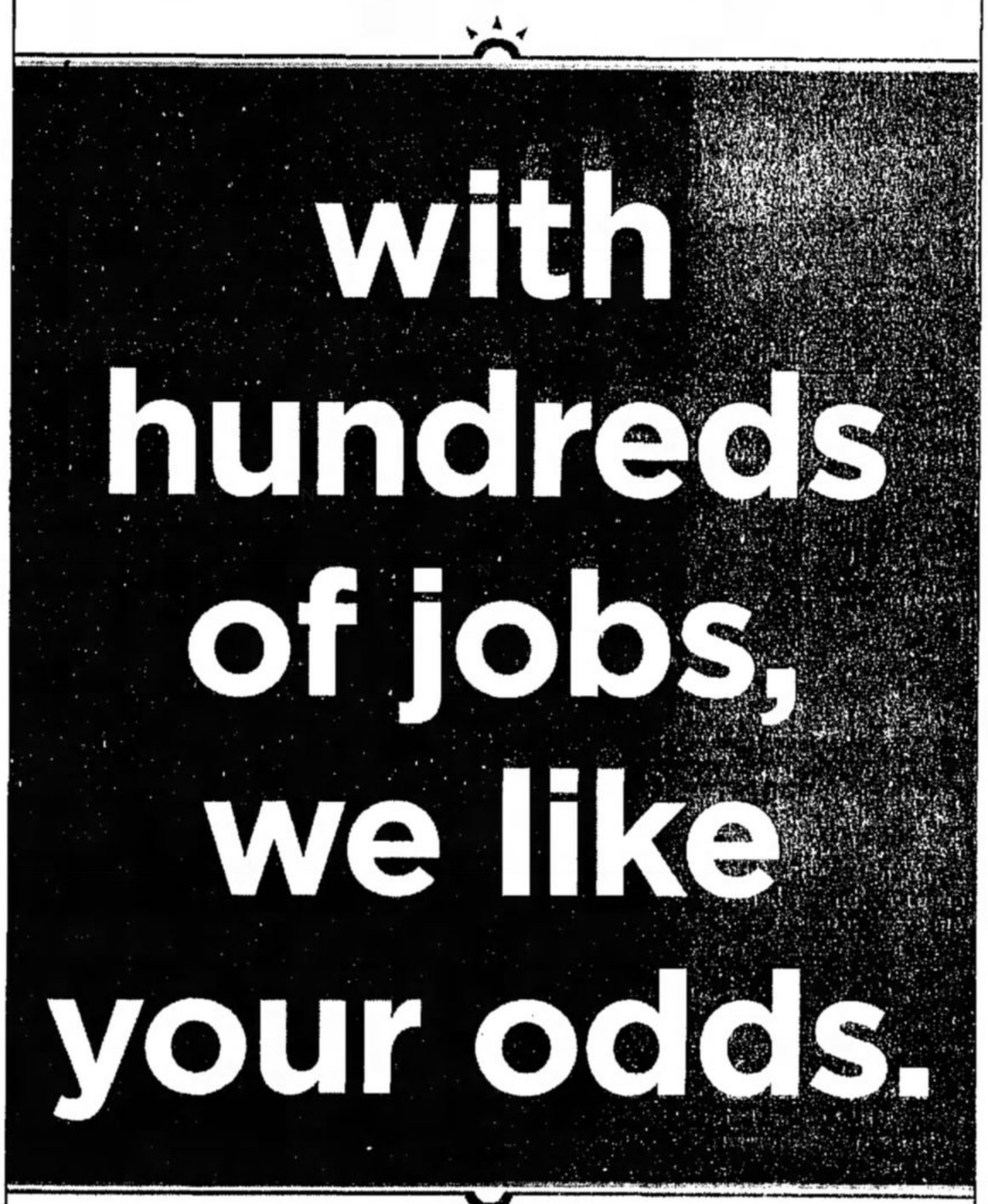
On several occasions, however, Young appeared to become flustered by Wilson's questions, saying she didn't know how to answer them.

"You can't always look at one document in a file and answer questions that are being presented," Young said. "If I had the backup file, I could better answer the questions you're asking."

Wilson indicated that many of the questions Young will face today will focus on billing practices for Wecht's private clients.

When you come home ...

When submitting Valley on Vacation photographs, please list the community of your residence and the communities of residence of everyone featured in your vacation photograph. In addition, print your telephone number on the back of the photograph, just in case we have any questions.



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PITTSBURGH

TV LISTINGS

Effort to mend broken family ties meets stiff resistance

Dear ABBY

DEAR ABBY: My husband's sister, "Mia," is a lesbian who came out to her family 10 years ago.

Her parents disowned her.

We were just out of high school, and for years we had no idea why.

We were not allowed to invite Mia to our wedding or to have any contact with her.

Several years later, she began trying to repair their relationship, despite the fact that she's forbidden to talk about her life or bring her partner anywhere near them.

This was when we learned what had happened, and we were appalled at how Mia had been treated.

When she comes to town for holidays, she stays with us. Because of this, my in-laws treat us like "sinners" just as they do her, and we're caught in the middle.

We have tried explaining to these family members that they are entitled to their position and we're entitled to ours; that Mia is family and deserves respect and kindness.

They call us liberal freaks with no moral values and say we should stand up to her and not let her "manipulate" us.

My husband and I are tired of the drama we get at holiday time.

Not only do they usually pick a fight with Mia while she's here, but they also won't speak to us for two weeks afterward.

The last two times she came, Mia has either had to cut her trip short or has been reduced to tears by the harsh words from family members.

If you wonder why Mia even bothers coming home, it's because she wants to maintain contact with us and she loves her nieces and nephews.

How do we handle these people, or do we just give up? — **ODD ONES OUT IN OHIO**

DEAR ODD ONES OUT: Stand your ground.

Do not allow yourselves to be bullied or emotionally blackmailed into rejecting your husband's sister.

You are neither morally challenged nor "liberal freaks" for trying to help bridge the gap with the family.

Frankly, your sister-in-law must be extremely resilient to have tolerated the abuse she's getting from these "good" people.

They may not approve of her sexual orientation, but she did not choose it — it's who she is.

It seems this self-righteous family's "moral values" do not include tolerance.

DEAR ABBY: I share a room with my stepsisters during visitation at my dad's.

Their room doesn't have a lock, and my stepmom, "Muriel," doesn't believe in knocking before coming into their room. My stepsisters are used to it and don't care.

However, Muriel is not my mom, and it's embarrassing to be barged in on without warning, especially when I'm undressed.

Last weekend she walked in after I had just taken a shower and was completely naked. Muriel couldn't understand why I'd have a problem with it, since we're both females and I was already naked in front of my stepsisters.

I have asked her nicely to please knock when I'm there, but she says, "A mother doesn't have to knock when coming into her own daughters' (or stepdaughter's) room."

Muriel said I have a "silly hang-up" and need to get over it. "I wouldn't be doing you any favors," she said, "if I gave in."

Is my request unreasonable?

How should I handle this? — **FEELS LIKE CINDERELLA**

DEAR FEELS LIKE CINDERELLA: It doesn't appear that you and Muriel are particularly close, or even on the same wavelength.

She's being heavy-handed in the way she is asserting herself, and you should talk to your father and mother about it.

Your stepmother is the adult, and she has allowed this to be turned into a power struggle. She's not your mother, and as you are a guest in their home, some common courtesy should be extended.

(Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING — FEB. 20, 2008

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	(2) (7) News (N)/ (10) WTAJ News at 6 (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric/ (7) Entertainment/ (10) Inside	(2) The Insider/ (7) Inside Edition/ (10) Two and a Half Men "My Damn Stalker"	Big Brother: 'Til Death Do You Part One houseguest is evicted.		Criminal Minds "Lucky" Morgan questions his faith as the team pursues a cannibalistic serial killer.		CSI: NY "Time's Up" A dying man confesses to a murder 24 hours before it happens.		(2) (7) News (N)/ (10) WTAJ News at 11 (N)	Late Show With David Letterman Kelsey Grammer; Erika Jensen; Foo Fighters. (N)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Tom Selleck. (N)		(2) Extra/ (7) The Insider/ (10) Everybody Loves Raymond "The Mentor"	(2) (10) Paid/ (7) That '70s Show Eric and Donna double-date.	(4) Paid/ (7) (10) CBS Up to the Minute (N)
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) News (N)/ (23) The Insider (N)	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition/ (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment Tonight/ (23) Wheel of Fortune	Wife Swap "Blankenship/Phillips" Rocker wife trades homes with an ex-military woman. (N)		Supernanny "Wilson-Knutson Family" Pop star Wendy Wilson and husband Dan Knutson seek Jo's help. (N)		Cashmere Mafia "Dog Eat Dog" Juliet finds herself the object of a multibillionaire's affections. (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (N)/ (23) News (N)	Nightline (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live Johnny Knoxville; Ben Kronberg. (N)	(4) Oprah Winfrey/ (23) Paid		(23) Paid	(4) Paid/ (23) Jerry Springer (N)	(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight (N)/ (9) (11) Jeopardy! "Teen Tournament" (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N)/ (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune (N)	Deal or No Deal The board contains 13 million-dollar cases. (N)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Smile" A dentist's murder connects to the death of one of his patients.		Law & Order "Executioner" A doctor is found murdered. (N)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno Garth Brooks; Christina Ricci. (N)		Late Night With Conan O'Brien Randy Jackson; the Whigs. (N)		Last Call With Carson Daly	Poker After Dark Doyle Brunson; Chris Ferguson; Chau Giang; Andy Bloch; Hoyt Corkins; Gabe Kaplan. (N)	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) That '70s Show/ (53) Frasier	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	Seinfeld "The Race" Jerry is challenged to a race.	American Idol Female singers perform. (N)				(8) News (N)/ (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10	(8) Seinfeld Jerry tracks a hit-and-run driver.	(8) The King of Queens/ (53) Seinfeld	(8) Frasier "Police Story"/ (53) Scrubs "My New God"	(8) ★★★ Black Hawk Down/ (53) Scrubs	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(53) Sex and the City Carrie sleeps over.	(53) Cheaters
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	On Q	America's Ballroom Challenge "International Latin" (N)		Great Performances "Company" Stephen Sondheim's musical "Company" stars Raúl Esparza. (N)					Charlie Rose (N)		OnQ Magazine	Nova "Ape Genius"		Frontline "Rules of Engagement"	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	America's Next Top Model (Season Premiere) (N)		Pussycat Dolls Present: Girlicious "Let's Get Girlicious"		The 10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	That '70s Show	King of the Hill "SerPunt"	South Park	Paid	Paid	Paid
(22) WPMY	The Simpsons	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Whacked Out	Whacked Out	Master-Illusion		TMZ (N)	Frasier	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Paid		Paid	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club		Focus 4		Today God	Heritage	Joel Osteen	Aspiring	With Arlene	Quick Study	CBN News	Richard and Lindsay Roberts		Theater	Focus 4		This Is Day	Laverne Tripp
(59) WBGN	Temptation	Temptation	Degrassi	Reno 911!	The Nanny	Mad Abt. You	Stone Undercover		Cold Squad		Reno 911!	Blind Date	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami "Double Cap"		CSI: Miami "Recoil"		CSI: Miami "Vengeance"		CSI: Miami "Whacked"		CSI: Miami "10-7"		CSI: Miami "Recoil"		CSI: Miami "Vengeance"		CSI: Miami "Whacked"	
ABCFAM	★★★ Casper (1995)				★★★ Casper (1995)				Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Whose Line?	Whose Line?	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
AMC	★★★★ The Godfather, Part II (1974)				★★★ The Godfather, Part III (1990) A dignified don joins his wild nephew in a Sicilian vendetta.								Breaking Bad "Cancer Man"		★★★★ The Searchers (1956)			
ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter		Africa's Outsiders		Blue Planet: Seas of Life		Blue Planet: Seas of Life		Animal Precinct		Blue Planet: Seas of Life		Blue Planet: Seas of Life		Animal Precinct		Africa's Outsiders	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		Dancing With the Stars				BBC World News America		Dancing With the Stars				Coupling	Tate	The Weakest Link	
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)		★★★½ The Color Purple (1985) Based on Alice Walker's portrait of a rural black woman.								Malcolm	Malcolm	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Comicview		Blind Boys	BETJ Special
BRAVO	Project Runway "On Garde!"		Project Runway		Project Runway		Project Runway		Project Runway "Reunion"		Project Runway "Reunion"		Make Me a Supermodel		Project Runway "Reunion"		Project Runway "Reunion"	
CMT	Home Videos	Home Videos	Comedy Club	Comedy Club	Comedy Club	Comedy Club	Gone Country		Gone Country	Gone Country	Gone Country	★★★ Pure Country (1992)					CMT Music	
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		American Greed (N)		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money		American Greed		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Paid	Paid
CNN	The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	★★½ Cadillac Man (1990)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Daily Show	Colbert	Futurama	South Park	South Park	Reno 911! (N)	Daily Show	Colbert	South Park	Reno 911!	Daily Show	Colbert	★★★ Hotel de Love (1996)	
COURT	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Most Shocking (N)		Most Daring		World's Wildest		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Most Shocking		Most Daring		World's Wildest	
CSPAN	House of Representatives				Tonight From Washington						Capital News Today						Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	How It's Made	How It's Made	Futureweapons		MythBusters "MacGyver." (N)		Smash Lab Insulation. (N)		MythBusters "Steam Cannon"		Futureweapons		MythBusters "MacGyver."		Smash Lab Insulation.	
DISNEY	Wizards-Place	Wizards-Place	Han, Montana	Zack & Cody	Go Figure (2005)				That's-Raven	Life Derek	Zack & Cody	Han, Montana	Replacements	Kim Possible	Emperor New	Dragon	Buzz Light	Timon
E!	THS-Spring Break Nightmares		E! News (N)	The Daily 10	25 Most Sensational Hollywood Meltdowns				Snoop Father	Snoop Father	E! News	Chelsea	The Daily 10	Girl Next Door	Snoop Father	Snoop Father	E! News	Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter		College Basketball North Carolina at North Carolina State.				NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Phoenix Suns.					SportsCenter			NFL Live (N)	Gamenight	SportsCenter	
ESPNC	UEFA Soccer		American Gladiators		Boxing		Ali's 65		Who's Number 1?		Soccer: Pan Pacific Champ. — Osaka vs. Los Angeles				Wrestling	Soccer: Pan Pacific Championships		
ESPN2	NASCAR Now	Rome-Burning	College Basketball Marquette at St. John's.				College Basketball Kansas State at Nebraska.				SportsCenter	Gamenight	NASCAR Now	Formula D Drifting		Formula D Drifting		All Access
EWTN	Eucharistic	A Hill Apart	Daily Mass: Our Lady		EWTN Live		Super Saints	Holy Rosary	Fatima: Altar do Mundo		Faith-Culture	Domestic	Daily Mass: Our Lady		EWTN Live		Domestic	Jesus Christ
FNC	Special Report		Fox Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		Special Report	
FOOD	Minute Meals	Minute Meals	Emeril Live Bronx ingredients.		Good Eats	Good Eats	Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Dinner	Dinner	Challenge "Extreme Cakes"		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Dinner	Dinner	Challenge "Extreme Cakes"	
FSN	Final Score	Savran on SportsBeat	Pens Rewind		College Basketball West Virginia at Villanova.				SportsBeat	Final Score	Best Damn Sports Show		Final Score	Best Damn Sports Show		Pens Rewind	Final Score	Final Score
FX	★★½ The Transporter 2 (2005)				★★★ Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines (2003)					★★★ Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines (2003)					'70s Show	'70s Show	Paid	Paid
GOLF	Post Game	Golf Central	European	PGA Tour Golf WGC Accenture Match Play Championship — Day 1. From the Gallery at Dove Mountain in Tucson, Ariz.								19th Hole (N)	Golf Central	19th Hole	Lessons	The Turn	Golf Hawaii	Golf Central
GSN	Lingo	Whammy	Weakest Link		Be a Millionaire		Family Feud	Family Feud	How Much	Chain	Lingo	Whammy	Be a Millionaire		Trivia Trap	Now You See	High Stakes Poker	
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Though None Go With Me (2006)				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
HGTV	Rezoned	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House	Designed-Sell	Get It Sold	Deserving	Design-Dime	House	Sleep on It (N)	Desperate Sp.	Whats	Designed-Sell	Get It Sold	Deserving	Design-Dime	House	Sleep on It
HIST	Shootout! "Wild West"		Modern Marvels "Taxidermy"		Modern Marvels Butchers.		MonsterQuest "Birdzilla"		UFO Hunters (N)		UFO Files "UFO Hot Spots"		Modern Marvels Butchers.		MonsterQuest "Birdzilla"		UFO Hunters	
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Still Standing	Still Standing	Reba	Reba	Fatal Reunion (2005)				Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Frasier	Frasier	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	The Nanny	Paid
MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		Live With Dan Abrams		Dead Men Talking: Buried		Dead Men Talking: Trail		Countdown-Olbermann		Dead Men Talking: Buried		Dead Men Talking: Trail	
MTV	Made Hip hop dancer.		Made "Girly Girl"		Making the Band 4		Real World-Road Rules		Real World-Road Rules		The X Effect	The X Effect	Real World-Road Rules		Jackass	Jackass	Jackass	Jackass
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	iCarly	Naked	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince
OXY	Bad Girls	Bad Girls	★★ The Seventh Sign (1988)				★★ The Seventh Sign (1988)				Lipstick Jungle		The Tyra Banks Show		★★½ Single White Female (1992)			
PCN	PCN Tours		PCN Call-In		PA Public Affairs												Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Lynn Cullen Show Talk show.		News	Psychiatric	NightTalk With Ann Devlin		It's Your Call		NightTalk With Ann Devlin		Honsberger	Fedko Fone	News	News	News	Paid	NightTalk With Ann Devlin	
SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "Pretense"		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters International		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters International		Ghost Hunters		Twilight Zone	Twilight Zone	The X-Files	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed		Pros vs. Joes		UFC Unleashed		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Star Trek: Voyager		Bullrun	
TBS	Friends	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	Sex and City	Sex and City	10 Items-Less	★★ Paycheck (2003) A technical wizard learns his memory has been erased.				
TCM	★★★ One, Two, Three (1961)				★★★★ Some Like It Hot (1959)				★★★½ Stalag 17 (1953)					★★★½ The Caine Mutiny (1954)				Buccaneer
TLC	Property Ladder		Big as Life: Obesity		The 750-Pound Man		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Big Medicine (N)		The 750-Pound Man		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Big Medicine		Big as Life: Obesity	
TNT	Law & Order		Law & Order "Genius"		Law & Order "Obsession"		★★ Enough (2002)				Cold Case "Factory Girls"		Without a Trace "Gung-Ho"		Without a Trace "Legacy"		★★★½ Seven (1995)	
TOON	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Codename	Camp Lazlo	Chowder	Johnny Test	Jimmy's Head	Courage-Dog	Ed, Edd	Naruto	Family Guy	Family Guy	Chicken	Full-Alchemist	Ghost in Shell	Eureka 7	Family Guy	Family Guy
TRAVEL	Treasure Hunting in America		Tornado Alley USA		Hamburger Paradise		Inside the Mall of America		Treasures	Treasures	Tornado Alley USA		Hamburger Paradise		Inside the Mall of America		Treasures	Treasures
TVLAND	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Sanford	Sanford	Sanford	Sanford	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Just Shoot	Just Shoot	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Sanford	Jeffersons
USA	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		★★ Hostage (2005)					Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		★½ Belly of the Beast (2003)		
VH1	20 Greatest Oscar Moments		Celebrity Rehab		What Perez Sez About Divas		The Flavor of Love		The Flavor of Love		Salt N Pepa	★★★ Boys on the Side (1995) Premiere.					Rock of Love-Bret Michaels	
VS.	NHL Hockey		WEC WrekCage		WEC WrekCage		★★ Wildcats (1986)				Cycling: Tour of California		★★ Wildcats (1986)				WEC WrekCage	
WE	20/20 "Alive"		20/20 "Bad Girls 1"		20/20 "Bad Girls 2"		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Brides	Brides	Party Mamas	Party Mamas	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Brides	Brides	Party Mamas	Party Mamas
WGN	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Home Videos		Corner Gas	Corner Gas	Becker	Becker	WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Corner Gas	Becker	Funniest Home Videos		The Steve Wilkos Show (N)	
ENC	★★★ Romancing the Stone (1984)				★½ 10 Things I Hate About You (1999)		★★½ The Frighteners (1996)					★★★ The Sixth Sense (1999)				★★★ Slap Shot (1977)		
HBO	★½ Blue Streak (1999)		Bernard and Doris (2008)				In Treatment	In Treatment	Real Time With Bill Maher		The Wire "Took"		Cathouse: Pty	★★★ Slither (2006) Alien organisms infest a small town.			Comedy Jam	
MAX	★★★ Die Hard 2 (1990)			★★★½ The Departed (2006)					★★★ Music and Lyrics (2007)				Passion Cove	★★★ The Patriot (2000)				
SHOW	★★ Employee of the Month (2006)				The L Word Oil wrestling.		★★ Saw III (2006)				Elite Xtreme Combat					★½ The Crow: City of Angels (1996)		
STARZ	★ Ultraviolet (2006)		★★½ Open Season (2006)				★½ Are We Done Yet? (2007)		Head Case	Hollywd Res.	Head Case	Hollywd Res.	★★½ Running With Scissors (2006)			The Lives of Others (2006)		
TMC	★★★ Twelve and Holding (2005)				★★½ Meatballs (1979)			★★ The Pink Panther (2006)				★★★ Muriel's Wedding (1994)				★★★ The Boys (1998)		Candid Sex

MONEY MATTERS

With taxes, little things mean a lot

Savvy filers can take advantage of new wrinkles in the law.

By EILEEN PUTMAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — For 2007 income taxes, it's the little things that count. Small deductions here, a credit there, a bit of help for homeowners caught in the mortgage crisis — all add up to tax savings for savvy filers.

But a big thing — Congress' last-minute fix of the alternative minimum tax — delayed filing for several million early birds who usually submit returns months ahead of the April 15 deadline.

Affected were taxpayers claiming any of five credits related to the AMT. This year, they couldn't file before February. More than 13 million taxpayers claim those credits, the Internal Revenue Service said, but only about 3 million to 4 million typically file before Feb. 11, the agency's target date for processing those forms.

For 125 million other taxpayers it's business as usual, the IRS says. And for everyone, including those affected by the five AMT-related forms, tax returns are still due April 15. Tax owed must be paid by that date, even if you file for the automatic six-month extension.

Filing electronically and having your refund electronically deposited into a bank account will get it to you weeks earlier than choosing to receive it by government check.

"We strongly encourage taxpayers to file electronically, particularly those affected by late tax law changes," said Linda Stiff, acting IRS commissioner. "Filing electronically makes things easier by reducing errors and speeding up refunds."

Taxpayers using home tax preparation software should check the companies' Web sites often for updates. Those still grappling with paper forms can print updated forms from the IRS Web site at http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html or order them from the IRS by calling 1-800-829-3676.

Forms also are available at post offices, banks, public libraries and other outlets, though they might not be up to date. But then neither is the tax packet that last year's paper filers received by mail from the IRS in January, because it doesn't include those five AMT-related forms.

When the dust settles, you'll find there's little that's new this filing season, other than the usual inflation-related adjustments. But even small items can add up.

"Make sure that you've got the bases covered. Make sure you know all of the deductions you're entitled to, the credits you can claim," said Maggie Doedtman, client advice manager for H&R Block, the tax preparation giant.

> "We strongly encourage taxpayers to file electronically, particularly those affected by late tax law changes."
>
> Linda Stiff, acting IRS commissioner

Leading the list of new items for 2007 are tax breaks for homeowners facing foreclosure or struggling with house payments that include mortgage insurance premiums.

Mortgage insurance is required by government and private lenders on home purchases in which the buyer pays less than 20 percent as a down payment. For 2007, taxpayers can deduct mortgage insurance premiums on home acquisition debt that was new or refinanced in 2007. If you simply continued paying premiums on a mortgage that predated 2007, you can't deduct those.

Like many deductions, this one phases out as income rises. Only taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes of $100,000 or less take the full deduction.

Homeowners facing foreclosure have one bright spot, a provision Congress passed late last year as the mortgage crisis took its toll. Taxpayers granted forgiveness of mortgage debt in 2007 don't have to pay taxes on the amount of that forgiveness, up to $2 million ($1 million for a married person filing separately). Previously, loan forgiveness was often taxed as income.

Despite high fuel prices and other energy costs, energy tax breaks are petering out. Homeowners who made certain energy-saving home improvements in 2007 have one last chance to claim the residential energy credit, but only if they didn't use all the credit in 2006. Items that qualify include insulation, certain water heaters, air conditioners, fans, furnaces, skylights, exterior windows and doors, solar panels and metal roofs with pigmented coatings designed to reduce a home's heat gain.

The credit is usually 10 percent of the cost, though there may be separate limits for specific devices. The credit is limited to $500 for the 2006 and 2007 tax years combined.

Taxpayers who bought a new hybrid or alternative-fuel vehicle in 2007 are eligible for the alternative motor vehicle credit, but this phases out beginning in the second calendar quarter after the quarter in which the manufacturer records its 60,000th sale of hybrids and alternative fuel vehicles. Check the IRS Web site for specific manufacturers' models and allowable credits.

There's a new wrinkle in effect for 2007 charitable contributions: tighter record-keeping requirements for smaller cash contributions. Previously, for amounts under $250, a taxpayer's notes or personal check register reflecting the donations was sufficient documentation.

Now, all cash donations must be backed up by official records such as a check, bank copy of the check, electronic funds transfer record, credit card or credit union statement. These must list the charity, donation amount, date paid or transaction posting date. A charity's written acknowledgment showing that information is also OK.

You don't have to submit those records to the IRS, just keep them on hand in case you are audited.

"Everything on the tax form is only as good as the documentation behind it," said Mark Steber, vice president of tax resources at Jackson Hewitt Tax Service, which has 6,000 tax preparation locations across the country. "The IRS is not too forgiving on the 'trust me' phrase."

What are your chances of being audited? Slim, unless you have a high income and large deductions to go with it. That's also the group of taxpayers targeted by the AMT, a parallel tax system designed to make sure the wealthy don't use a lot of deductions to avoid paying their fair share of federal taxes.

However, more and more moderate income taxpayers are ensnared by the tax because it isn't indexed for inflation. In December, Congress spared more than 20 million taxpayers an average extra $2,000 tax hit for 2007 by freezing AMT growth for a year.

Because Congress acted so late, the IRS had to scramble to reprogram its processing system. Since the AMT disallows deductions and credits, it affects a dozen or so tax forms used by many taxpayers, not just by the wealthy.

The IRS was able to rework most forms quickly. However, the forms for five credits required more significant reprogramming: Form 8863, "Education Credits"; Form 5695, "Energy Credits"; Schedule 2, "Child and Dependent Care Expenses for Form 1040A Filers"; Form 8396, "Mortgage Interest Credit"; and Form 8859, "District of Columbia First-Time Homebuyer Credit."

Two of the credits — the mortgage interest credit and the D.C. homebuyer credit — are used by a relatively small number of taxpayers. And there's a way around Schedule 2 for the child and dependent care credit: Early filers could choose to switch to Form 1040 and attach Form 2441, "Child and Dependent Care Expenses."

2007 TAX TIME
PREPARATION

Avoid common tax errors

WASHINGTON (AP) — Everyone makes mistakes. But when it comes to tax returns, errors can be costly. Check and double-check the items below, which are among the most common tax goofs, according to the Internal Revenue Service and MSN.com tax expert Jeff Schnepper.

■ Claiming the wrong filing status: Your filing status determines a number of tax benefits, like the child tax credit, earned income tax credit and dependent exemptions. Filing status choices are single, married filing jointly, married filing separately, head of household, and qualified widow with dependent child. You can't just pick one; each has requirements.

■ Wrong Social Security numbers: If these are incorrect, they won't match your government records and the IRS may disallow exemptions, credits and deductions.

■ Failing to sign and date your return: If you don't sign, the IRS doesn't consider the return filed. E-filed returns can be electronically signed, and this year the agency is simplifying that process. You or your tax preparer can use a PIN number to complete the filing process.

■ Claiming ineligible dependents: Make sure they qualify. If they don't have Social Security numbers, the IRS may disallow the exemption.

■ Not claiming (or misusing) the earned income tax credit: Millions of low-income working families qualify, but do not claim it for a variety of reasons. Even if you don't make enough money to be required to file a tax return, you may still be eligible for the credit. Because this is a refundable credit, it often means money back from the IRS. However, check the requirements because some taxpayers who try to claim the credit do not qualify.

■ Failing to report domestic workers: Some taxpayers do this to avoid paying Social Security and Medicare taxes for their workers, and it's against the law.

■ Failing to report all income: This means every source of income, even if you don't get a W-2 back from an employer, or a 1099 form from someone else you did work for.

■ Failing to check whether you are subject to the alternative minimum tax: If your deductions and taxes are so high as to wipe out much of your tax liability, it's a good chance you may be subject to AMT, a parallel tax system designed to make sure the wealthy pay their fair share. But you don't have to have vast wealth to fall under AMT. More middle income taxpayers are being ensnared by this tax.

■ Bad math: Mistakes in figuring taxable income, tax amount, deductions, capital gains, credits or money you owe or are due as a refund.

■ Not filing the right forms: IRS instructions spell out who has to file which form. There are, for example, short and long versions of the 1040. See "Which form should I use" in IRS Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax."

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Burns: County's future is bright

Commissioner details growth, investment in Washington.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com

Washington County Commissioner Bracken Burns addressed several topics at Tuesday's meeting of the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Jim Ference/ The Valley Independent

It is the county with the second-highest per capita income in Pennsylvania and the fastest growing per capita income in the state.

Yet it has the lowest real estate taxes in the state.

That county is Washington, where many "exciting things" are happening in economic development, county Commissioner Bracken Burns said.

Speaking Tuesday at the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting, Burns outlined economic development projects across the county.

The biggest success has been at Southpointe, which Burns called "the envy of everyone in the state." Located in Cecil Township, a $20 million public investment has spurred $345 million in development at a 600-acre mixed-use park that is home to 160 companies, including many international firms.

"One decision made years ago has reaped 6,229 jobs in one place, and they don't have any bad jobs at Southpointe," Burns said.

Starpointe, located at the Findlay Connector of the Southern Beltway, is the largest brownfield site in the state.

Other projects are either under development or on the drawing board, Burns said.

The ongoing Crossroads Project in downtown Washington includes street-level retail, residential lofts, an 80-room hotel, and an outdoor park and amphitheatre. In total, it will mean more than 500 new jobs.

But one of the biggest projects under development is the Victory Center located along Racetrack Road at the Meadowlands. It is a $415 million development – 90 percent of which is private money – that will ultimately create 2,600 jobs.

Phase II of the Meadows gaming project is a $450 million endeavor that will create 500 casino jobs. When the permanent facility is completed in the spring of 2009, as many as 25,000 people each day will visit the gaming site development that will include a two-story theater, a centrally located sports bar, a convention area and a stage area for live entertainment.

Southpointe II has already attracted Consol Energy and 650 jobs.

Noting that several hotel projects are in the offering, Burns said he did the math on the positive effect of economic development attractions in the county.

When racetrack row is complete, 11 million visitors will come to the county a year and at least one-third will stay overnight.

Southpointe II will also include a residential component that will include a town center, high-end retail businesses, a movie theater, office space and apartments.

In the Mid-Mon Valley, California Technology Park now employs 460.

A hotel for California is being discussed, Burns said.

Burns created the Middle Monongahela Industrial Development Association to create economic opportunities at three Valley sites. MIDA owns the park in Donora, where the Mid-Mon Valley Transit Authority is building a park-and-ride facility in the former incubator building.

Burns noted Alta Vista in Italian translates to "high view." To see all of the things that are occurring at the Alta Vista business park, it is necessary to drive up into the park. He noted that the LaCarte family, which owns Model Cleaners, is nearly doubling the building it constructed in phase I of the Alta Vista development to attract new business.

Valley Retreading is relocating into MIDA-owned Greater Charleroi Industrial Development Park in Speers, creating 12 new jobs and retaining 28 others. It is a move that the Washington County Industrial Development Corporation has assisted.

Burns said $1.5 billion will be invested in Washington county in the next five years, creating 10,000 jobs.

"Stay tuned, there are many great days ahead in Washington County," Burns said.

Oil back above $100 a barrel

Texas refinery outage, possible production cut blamed for increase.

By JOHN WILEN
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Oil futures shot higher Tuesday, closing above $100 for the first time as investors bet that crude prices will keep climbing despite evidence of plentiful supplies and falling demand. At the pump, gas prices rose further above $3 a gallon.

There was no single driver behind oil's sharp price jump; investors seized on an explosion at a 67,000 barrel per day refinery in Texas, the falling dollar, the possibility that OPEC may cut production next month, and continuing tensions between the U.S. and Venezuela.

Gasoline and heating oil prices appeared to be leading the advance, rising faster in percentage terms than oil due to the explosion Monday at Alon USA's Big Spring, Texas, refinery, which could be shuttered for two months.

> "The refinery fire in Texas is making people a little concerned."
>
> Michael Lynch, president of Strategic Energy & Economic Research Inc. in Amherst, Mass.

"The refinery fire in Texas is making people a little concerned," said Michael Lynch, president of Strategic Energy & Economic Research Inc. in Amherst, Mass.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery rose $4.51 to settle at a record $100.01 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after earlier rising to $100.10, a new trading record. It was the first time since Jan. 3 oil had been above $100.

March gasoline jumped 10.93 cents to settle at $2.6031 a gallon, and March heating oil rose 11.45 cents to settle at $2.7614 a gallon, also a record.

Oil prices are still within the range of inflation-adjusted highs set in early 1980. Depending on how the adjustment is calculated, $38 a barrel then would be worth $96 to $103 or more today.

The dollar fell Tuesday, giving investors another reason to buy oil. Crude futures offer a hedge against a falling dollar, and oil futures bought and sold in dollars are more attractive to foreign investors when the greenback is falling.

For the moment, investors appear to have put aside concerns about the economy that have sent oil prices down into the mid-$80 range twice since crude peaked above $100 last month. Traders are instead focused on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which will meet early next month to map out production plans, and Venezuela, where President Hugo Chavez made conflicting statements this weekend about a legal dispute with Exxon Mobil Corp.

OPEC could move to cut production in the second quarter, typically a period of low demand, though many analysts feel that's unlikely. In Venezuela, Chavez said he was not serious about an earlier threat to cut oil sales to the U.S., but also threatened to sue Exxon Mobil.

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA'S

Family, Inc.

by Jennifer Antkowiak

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

Q: I have been feeling some pressure in my chest, and because of reading so much about heart disease and women over the past few weeks, I've made an appointment to get checked out. Can you help me with information on what kinds of tests I might have to get?

A: I'm glad that you are going to allow a doctor to investigate your symptoms. You don't say how long you have to wait for your appointment. If you are feeling any more chest pressure, if it turns to pain, if you feel pain in your neck or jaw or pain that radiates down your left arm, if you start to have trouble breathing, if you start to feel dizzy or begin to sweat, or feel very tired without cause, don't wait for an appointment. Call your doctor and go to an emergency room.

Dr. Robert Biederman, director of Allegheny General Hospital's Cardiac MRI Center tells me that when a person comes to the hospital with chest pain, doctors are quick to explore the possibility that coronary heart disease is to blame, especially when the patient is a man age 55 or older, or a woman, age 65 or older.

One of the fastest, easiest, non-invasive ways for doctors to get an idea of whether there is a problem with the heart's functioning is through an EKG (electrocardiogram). For this painless procedure, a technician attaches small, soft, adhesive patches called electrodes to your chest, arms, and legs. All you have to do is lie still while the electrodes monitor electrical signals from the heart. This takes just about ten minutes.

Dr. Biederman feels that "an EKG is a reasonable way to start the diagnosis process", but points out that the basic EKG is only useful if the heart is having a problem during the test. It's possible, Dr. Biederman says, for a person to have several blockages but come out with a normal EKG.

Sometimes heart problems are easier to find when your heart is working harder. Doctors perform a cardiac stress test to pick up on those kinds of problems. During a cardiac stress test, your blood pressure and EKG readings are monitored while you walk or run on a treadmill or pedal a bicycle. If you aren't able to exercise, you can be injected with a medicine that will make your heart beat faster, to simulate walking, running, or pedaling.

Other tests can be done at the same time to give your doctor even more information about your heart. Nuclear heart scanning and echocardiography are commonly used during a stress test.

For a nuclear heart scanning, a radioactive isotope is injected into a vein, and a special camera takes images of how the blood flows through your heart. Echocardiography uses sound waves to show the flow of blood through, and the strength of, your heart.

To get an even better look at your heart, doctors can turn to either cardiac catheterization or Cardiac MRI (magnetic resonance imaging). For the MRI procedure, you lay still on a table that moves into a giant donut shaped unit. Cardiac MRI captures unbelievable, nearly real-time images of your beating heart that allow doctors to detect problems with the heart muscle or its blood vessels.

Allegheny General Hospital is the only facility in the state that has a center devoted to Cardiac MRI. I had the opportunity to be with Dr. Biederman during a test. You'll be able to see it too on my one-hour heart special, Saturday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m. on WTAE-TV, Channel 4. Cardiac catheterization involves placement of a thin, flexible tube called a catheter into a blood vessel in your arm, groin, or neck which is threaded to your heart.

Doctors can perform diagnostic tests, such as coronary angiography, and treatments on your heart through that catheter. Angiography uses dye injected into the bloodstream and X-rays to help your doctor find any narrowing or blockage in your heart's arteries.

As you can see, medical advancements mean there are better, safer options for doctors to use in determining a diagnosis, and developing a treatment plan.

J.

It's All About A Woman's Heart

Join Us For An Open House

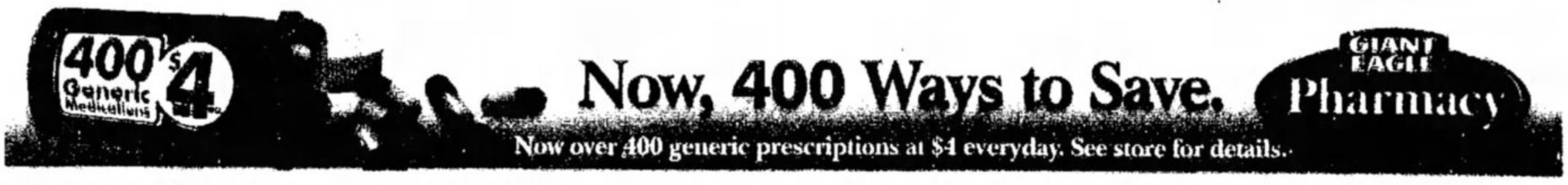
Allegheny General Hospital invites you to tour the Women's Heart Center in McCandless – a distinctive center that caters specifically to women and their unique cardiovascular needs. Our team of cardiologists – each of whom is a woman – will be glad to answer your questions. You'll also have an opportunity to meet local television personality Jennifer Antkowiak and learn how heart disease has impacted women in her family.

The Women's Heart Center is located in the **AGH McCandless Building, 9335 McKnight Road, nine miles north of Pittsburgh.**

Saturday, March 1, 2008
Refreshments will be served and guided tours of the facility will be available from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited.
To reserve your tour time, please call 1-877-284-2000.

The Women's Heart Center
www.pittsburghheartcare.com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New attitude for Bay

The Pirates' Jason Bay reported early to spring training and plans to stop criticizing team management. **2B**

Valley SPORTS

Craft of the Week

"Perfectly Painted Petals" bring allow creative people to enjoy springtime flowers in the middle of winter. **5B**

Tough stretch

The Cal U women will battle for second place with Shippensburg tonight before facing PSAC West leader Indiana Saturday. **2B**

Sports Trivia

Who was the last team to beat the Monessen High girls' basketball team and where was the game played? **2B**

Last night's scores

Boston 3, Carolina 2, SO
Pittsburgh 3, Florida 2
Montreal 6, N.Y. Rangers 5, SO
Toronto 3, Columbus 1
Ottawa 3, Philadelphia 2, SO
St. Louis 5, Chicago 1

Monessen steals victory

Christina Chukwuedo's late theft gives Lady Greyhounds stunning win.

By BRIAN HERMAN
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

PITTSBURGH — Monessen coach Major Corley didn't know if his star player Christina Chukwuedo was going to play in Tuesday's Class A semifinal game with Vincentian at Baldwin until an hour before school let out.

Chukwuedo didn't practice Monday after going to the hospital for an eye injury suffered in Friday's victory over Geibel. She saw an optometrist in Canonsburg Tuesday.

"There's an 80 percent chance she won't play," Corley insisted yesterday morning. "She was seeing white spots and we were thinking it was a detached retina. She didn't get clearance to play until the afternoon and the doctor told her to wear a protective covering, which she didn't want to do."

Chukwuedo saw well enough to make the difference as the unbeaten Lady Greyhounds (26-0) rallied for a thrilling 48-45 come-from-behind victory to advance to Friday's WPIAL Class A title game at Duquesne University's A.J. Palumbo Center against Mt. Alvernia (16-8).

Chukwuedo, who didn't start for the first time this season, scored a game-high 25 points, including her team's last 11 points in the decisive fourth quarter when Monessen limited the Royals (17-9) to seven points, and only one in the final two minutes.

With only 30 seconds left Monessen was trailing by three points (45-42) when the Greyhounds' defense came through.

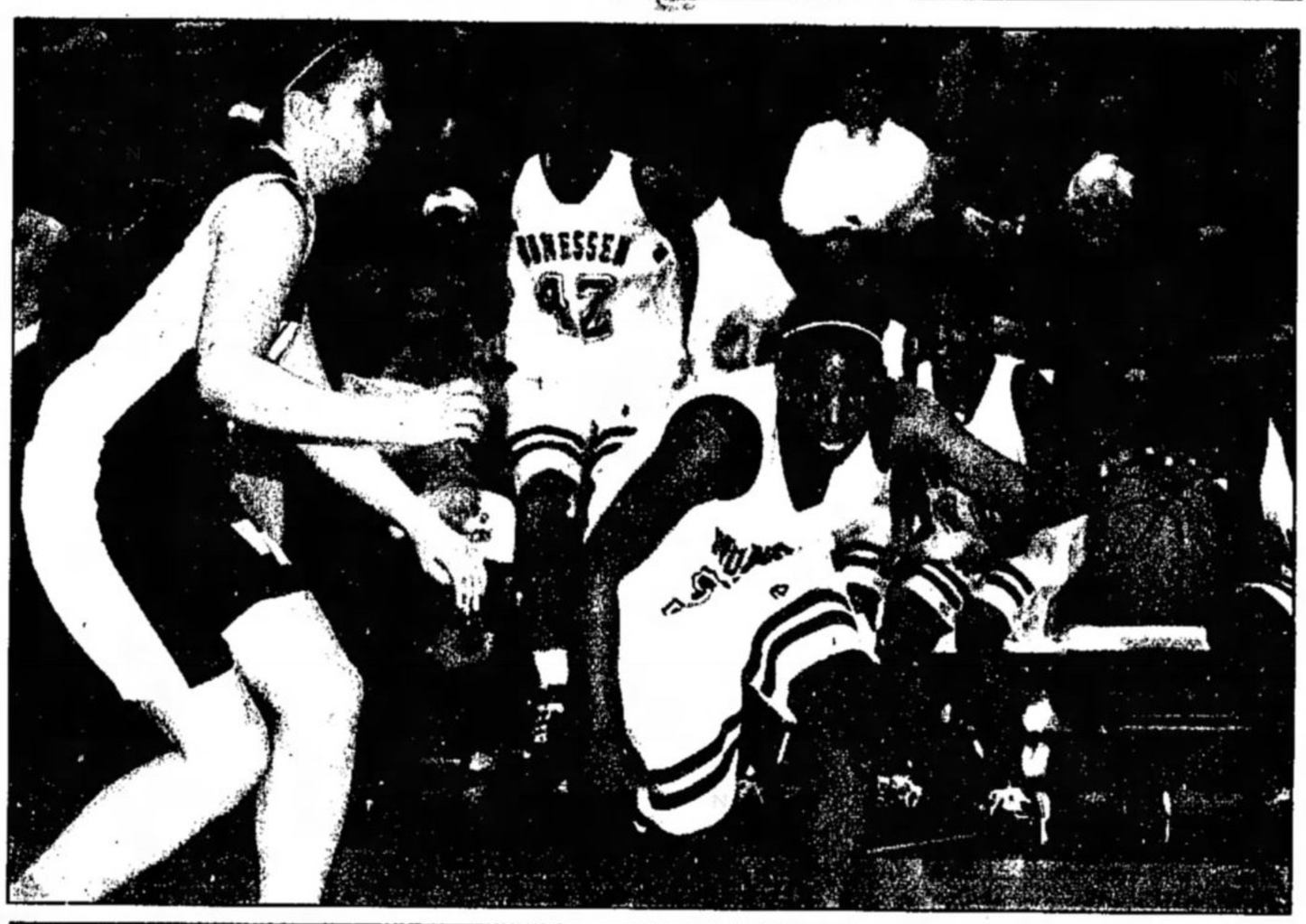
Following a Vincentian turnover, Chukwuedo drove for a score with 20 seconds left to cut the deficit, and with only 14.9 seconds showing on the clock turned a steal into a conventional three-point play for a 47-45 Monessen lead.

"Christina made a heckuva steal and a heckuva layup," said Corley.

After the Royals turned the ball over with six seconds left, Chukwuedo made the front end of a one-and-one a second later to give Monessen a three-point cushion.

Any hope Vincentian had of

(See MONESSEN, Page 2B)



Above, Christina Chukwuedo makes a key steal from Vincentian's Lindsay Knapp to spark a Monessen rally late in Tuesday's playoff win. At left, Samone Stepoli (32), Chukwuedo (30) and Melissa Popovich celebrate the victory.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Associated Press

Ryan Malone celebrates his game winning goal after being shoved into Florida goalie Tomas Vokoun in the third period Tuesday.

Late goals beat Panthers

Ryan Malone scores twice in the third period of Tuesday's 3-2 victory.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Penguins seem to save their best for last.

Ryan Malone scored twice in the final 3:20 as the Penguins erased a two-goal deficit in the third period for a 3-2 win over the Florida Panthers on Tuesday night.

"Off the bat, for whatever reason, it takes us a while to get going and sooner or later that might come back to bite us," said Malone, who has 11 points in his past nine games. "But right now, we're happy with the two points. That was the main thing tonight, to get the W."

Colby Armstrong also scored and Evgeni Malkin had two assists to take over the NHL's scoring lead for the Penguins, who tied idle New Jersey for the Atlantic Division lead.

David Booth and Brett McLean each scored for the Panthers, who have lost four of their last five.

Pittsburgh improved to 15-16-1 when an opponent scores first and won for the ninth time when trailing after one period and for the sixth time when behind heading into the third.

"We got it going eventually; we knew we could do it," Armstrong said. "I don't think anyone in here panicked. We might have gotten a little flustered there in the second period, but nobody panicked. It was a team effort in the third period, but we have to start playing 60 minutes.

The winner was scored after a scrum in front of the net. Malone took the puck from the right-wing circle to the net, and it found its way under Panthers

(See PENGUINS, Page 2B)

Wilkinsburg eliminates Bentworth

Third-quarter run allows Tigers to pull away in Class A semifinal contest.

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

CANONSBURG — Heading into his team's 67-51 loss to Wilkinsburg in a WPIAL Class A semifinal game Tuesday, Bentworth coach Bob Kennedy said the Tigers would have to beat his team because the Bearcats would not beat themselves.

Kennedy was right in saying his team would not lose the game.

The Tigers did beat Bentworth in a game that was much closer than the final score indicated.

Bentworth (17-8) only trailed 42-41 with 2:34 left in the third quarter after a Joe Kennedy basket, but the Tigers (15-10) scored the last six points of the quarter to open up a 48-41 lead heading into the final frame. Bentworth got no closer than five points the rest of the way.

"When they went on their run, I got concerned," Kennedy said. "I had to go with a smaller lineup to try and force turnovers and that is when they really started crashing the boards.

"They were aggressive on the board all night and when we went small, it got worse."

While Wilkinsburg only won the rebounding battle by a 41-29 margin, it recorded 20 of the offensive variety, seven of which were put back up for scores.

The teams played evenly in the first quarter with the Bearcats holding a 19-18 lead.

With 4:41 left in the opening quarter, AJ Poindexter, Wilkinsburg's main inside presence, picked up his second foul and sat the rest of the first half.

"It is our philosophy that when a player picks up his second foul in the first half, he sits (until the second half)," Wilkinsburg coach Odell Miller said.

With Miller out, Bentworth was able to constantly get to the hoop for easy shots.

Joe Kennedy (11 points) and his twin brother, Jon (nine) led Bentworth in the first half although Wilkinsburg had a 15-11 advantage in the second quarter to take a 33-30 lead.

Poindexter returned in the third quarter and did a lot of dirty work, scoring four of his 14 points and grabbing seven of his 12 rebounds.

When he wasn't scoring or rebounding, he was altering countless Bentworth shots and controlling the paint.

"He was a big factor for us," said Miller. " He made the difference in the game."

Another factor was Wilkinsburg pulling out of its press and going with a half-court 2-3 zone. The Tigers played their zone most of the game, but early on they used their presses to set it up.

"They were getting easy baskets early and once we got into foul trouble, we had to pack it in," Miller said. "When we did that, we stopped their penetration."

Kennedy said it had more to do with his team's shots.

"Our shots just didn't fall

(See BENTWORTH, Page 2B)

SPORTS

No more criticism from Bay

Pirates outfielder wasn't complaining as he arrived early to spring training.

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — The Pittsburgh Pirates and their best player sound ready to set aside their differences.

All-Star left fielder Jason Bay reported to spring training a day early Tuesday with nothing to add to comments he made last month, when he criticized the team's new management for doing little to bolster a roster that went 68-94 last season.

"That's it," Bay said Tuesday. "Time to move on and focus on what we do have."

Bay arrived after the team's workout, but he spent time talking to teammates and came away impressed by their accounts of manager John Russell's first camp.

"They've said that they already can feel that the air is a little different around here, just the way things are run and certain little idiosyncrasies that have changed," Bay said. "I think it's great. For the young team we have, it's great to just lay down the law and have that concrete guidance."

On the final day of last season, Bay said, "To think we're going to win 100 games or go to the World Series next year with the exact same team ... it would be a little foolish."

On Jan. 25, at the Pirates' annual fan festival in Pittsburgh, he said, "I think that, for a championship-quality team, you need to make more moves. And I'm not talking about the .500 team we can be. I don't think anyone in this room is going to tell you we're a championship-quality team."

Team president Frank Coonelly and general manager Neal Huntington talked to Bay after he made those comments, each saying he would have preferred Bay come to management directly.

"What Jason said, do I agree with it? No," Huntington said. "I wish he'd come to me. Maybe what I said, he wouldn't have liked, and he still would have made his comments. But, at least he would have made those comments with an understanding of what we're trying to accomplish."

Coonelly and Huntington, however, said Bay's remarks would not affect his future with the Pirates.

"Obviously, he was frustrated at the end of last year, and that's understandable," Coonelly said. "But there's nothing more important to the Pittsburgh Pirates' success in the short term than Jason Bay returning to the player that we all know he can be. His status with the club is certainly not in jeopardy."

Pittsburgh shopped Bay for a trade this offseason, but were dissatisfied that teams were offering little in return. That surely was because Bay's batting average dropped from .286 to .247 last season, his home runs from 35 to 21.

The Pirates will not rule out trading Bay or any other player in their quest to upgrade a barren minor-league system. In the interim, they hope to break a losing streak that stands at 15 seasons, one shy of the modern professional sports record set by the 1933-48 Philadelphia Phillies.

"We want Jason to be enthusiastic about what we're doing, about the teachers we brought in to work with him and the rest of the club," Coonelly said. "I think he's going to come to Bradenton and see a whole different mentality with this team."

NOTES: Shortstop Jack Wilson, first baseman Adam LaRoche and right fielder Xavier Nady also reported to camp Tuesday, one day before the Pirates' first full-squad workout.... Reliever Damaso Marte, out with the flu all spring, has been cleared for activity and did some light running.

Krepps signs

Jon Krepps, a three-year Belle Vernon Area starter and two-way standout at fullback and linebacker, has signed to play college football at Robert Morris University. With him are his mother, Sharon; father, Ron, top left, and Leps' coach Lou Rood.

Monessen (FROM PAGE ONE)

sending the game into overtime ended when Kelly Mornak intercepted the pass to preserve Monessen's toughest win.

"For three quarters and four minutes they outplayed us," said Corley. "The last two minutes were probably the turning point. We got more aggressive. Our life was on the line at the end and we should have played like that the whole game."

Monessen was down by seven points (38-31) going into the final minute of the third quarter when Samone Stepoli and Chukwuedo hit baskets to trim the deficit to 38-35.

Despite trailing in the final minutes, Chukwuedo wasn't concerned.

"We finished strong and that's all that matters," she said. "As long as there was still time in the game, I thought we could do it. Our defense and heart turned it around.

"In the last 20 seconds we did what we were supposed to do with our trap. Vincentian is a good team and their big people took it to us and we had no answer."

"It's exciting because now we have a chance of going unbeaten in the WPIAL because there's only a handful of teams who have done that."

LEFTOVERS: Mornak had 11 points with junior Samone Stepoli, Monessen's lone underclassman starter, adding 10 points and a team-high 14 rebounds ... The Monessen trio of Breane Minardi, Jessica Beveridge and Jessica Diggs, who had combined for 23 points a game, failed to score ... Beveridge, the team's top 3-point shooter, missed six treys ... Monessen went 21 of 64 from the floor including zero of nine on 3-pointers, marking the first time this season Monessen didn't make a trey ... Monessen trailed in the fourth quarter for only the second time this season ... Jackie Cortese, Vincentian's 1,000 point scorer, finished with 15 points including 11 in the second a half ... Lindsay Primyon added 12 points on four treys including three in the third quarter ... Mt. Alvernia downed Avonworth, 47-38, in the other semifinal game.

Bentworth (FROM PAGE ONE)

tonight," he said. "We stayed within our game plan but couldn't get it going offensively."

The Kennedy twins each scored 15 points, but their father said Jon, the team's leading scorer, did not get going offensively.

"He couldn't get it rolling," Kennedy said. "Once he picked up his third foul, I was telling him to not be so aggressive defensively as he was trying to still block shots. He never got into the offense."

Joining Poindexter in double figures for the Tigers were Shalick Garland (15), Keith Smith (13) and Clifton Staten (12).

The Bearcats will now wait to see who they play in the PIAA tournament.

"I am proud of these kids and of what they did, "Kennedy said. "We will take a day off, go to the Palumbo Center and root for Serra because they are from Section 3."

With the Bentworth loss, California was officially eliminated from the PIAA tournament.

Penguins (FROM PAGE ONE)

goalie Thomas Vokoun with 22.4 seconds to play. The Penguins were on the power play after Malkin drew a hooking penalty from Florida defenseman Jay Bouwmeester.

"I knew there wasn't too much time left, so I tried to bring it to the net," Malone said. "Actually, I kind of lost it there and got a nice little bounce. I'll take it."

Malone had tied it with another fortuitous bounce 2:57 earlier when he deflected in Ryan Whitney's wrist shot from the left circle.

"I just tried to go to the net, and I have been telling (Whitney) to keep aiming for my shin pads," Malone said. "And he hit it right off my shin pads. I'll take that every time."

Malkin had the second assist on that goal and had picked up the primary assist when Armstrong pulled the Penguins to within one 4:43 into the third. Just 7 seconds after a penalty to Pittsburgh ended, Malkin fed Armstrong, who fired a wrist shot over Vokoun's right shoulder.

Malkin had his five-game goal streak was snapped, but he has 79 points to move one ahead of fellow Russian Alexander Ovechkin atop the league's scoring list.

"I'm pretty tired right now, so I don't really care about that," Malkin said through an interpreter after the game. "It's just another game. (But) it's great if my name is in the paper more."

Malkin has a nine-game points streak and has 27 points in the 14 games Sidney Crosby has been out with an injured ankle. He has scored in all but one of those games as Pittsburgh has gone 8-4-2 in that time.

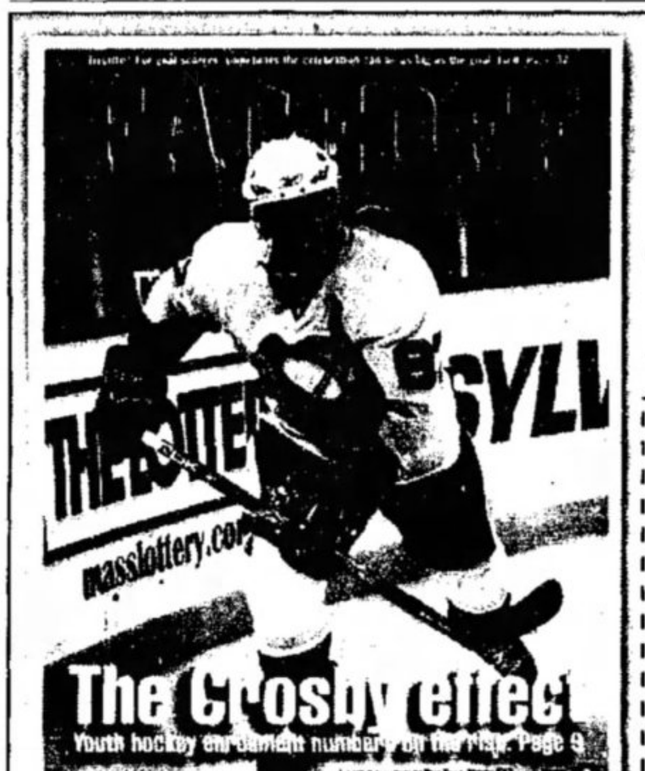
"When the game is on the line, you want your best player to be the best," Pittsburgh coach Michel Therrien said. "The game was on the line in the third period, and Malkin was outstanding. He wanted to win."

Booth, who has eight points in his past nine games, scored his 18th of the season to open the scoring with 3:36 left in the first.

"We stuck to our game plan early and often and were doing the little things correctly," Florida defenseman Bryan Allen said. "But for whatever reason, we're kind of almost scared out there to play confident and stick to the system, and we turned the puck over and missed assignments and then the puck is in the net a few times."

McLean scored 12:18 into the second to give Florida a 2-0 lead. While on the power play, a pass from Pittsburgh's Jeff Taffe wasn't handled properly by Darryl Sydor. McLean stole the puck at his own blue line and had a breakaway — Sydor was signaled to be called for hooking — and beat Conklin stick side for the second short-handed goal of his career.

"I thought that we were (in control of the game)," Panthers defenseman Ruslan Salei said. "We just have to learn how to protect the lead and have to play the same way for 60 minutes."



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SPORTS DIGEST

California wins 10th straight

The California University men's basketball team is home with Shippensburg tonight after downing visiting Salem International, 72-57, Tuesday.

The non-conference win was the tenth straight for Vulcans (18-4), who have climbed to 21st in the national rankings.

Julian Logan led Cal with 17 points followed by Ron Banks (15), James Hairston (13) and Ali Mbaye (12).

Mbaye also had a team-high nine rebounds.

High for Salem International (4-20) was Aleksandar Zmijanjac with 17 points.

California drops Ringgold, in finals

California's eighth grade Metro team advanced to Friday's 7:30 p.m. championship game at the South Park Elementary gym with a 52-35 win over Ringgold.

Jason Irwin (20) and Tanner Huffman (18) combined for 38 points for California.

Mike Beveridge and Tre' Crews topped Ringgold with 16 and 11 points, respectively.

California will play the winner of Thursday's contest between Belle Vernon Area and Upper St. Clair.

Monessen ticket sales scheduled

Ticket sales for the WPIAL Class A girls' basketball championship game between Monessen and Mt. Alvernia Friday at 5 p.m. at Duquesne University's A.J. Palumbo Center are scheduled today and Thursday,

Today's sale will be held between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Monessen athletic office.

Thursday's sales are 9:15 a.m. to 11a.m. at the cafeteria and 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. at the athletic office.

Ticket prices are $8 for adults and $4 for students. No student tickets will be sold at the game.

Steelers' Kirschke signs two-year deal

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Steelers signed defensive end Travis Kirschke to a two-year contract.

Kirschke was a backup until he started four games at the end of last season after Aaron Smith suffered a torn biceps muscle.

Travis Kirschke

Kirschke, 33, has played in 141 games, including 64 with the Steelers. He played six seasons in Detroit and one in San Francisco before signing with the Steelers as an unrestricted free agent before the 2004 season.

Aaron mum on Clemens, Bonds

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Hank Aaron hobbled into Atlanta's spring training camp with no opinion on whether Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens deserve to be in the Hall of Fame, but saying he's confident baseball is on the way to recovering from the Steroids Era.

He declined to say whether he found Clemens' testimony before Congress believable, taking the same tact he consistently followed when similar charges were leveled against Barry Bonds, the guy who broke the Hammer's long ball record last season.

Tejada not answering Mitchell allegations

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Miguel Tejada arrived at spring training with his new team and within minutes faced questions about the Mitchell Report and an FBI investigation looking into his alleged link to performance-enhancing drugs.

Tejada refused to answer any of them, preferring to discuss baseball and his fresh start with the Astros. Asked if he could answer the allegations in the Mitchell Report, Tejada said, "No, I can't. Not at all."

Cash traded to Seattle for fourth pick in draft

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle Storm acquired Swin Cash from the Detroit Shock in exchange for the fourth overall pick in this year's draft.

Cash, a two-time WNBA All-Star from McKeesport, averaged 11.1 points, 6.1 rebounds and 2.1 assists last season. She was a member of the WNBA champion Shock teams in 2003 and 2006.

NHL GMs discuss rules changes

NAPLES, Fla. (AP) — NHL general managers discussed several possible rules changes, including the size of goaltender equipment. One long-standing problem with reducing the size of goaltender equipment has been a lack of cooperation from the NHL Players Association.

Meanwhile, the GMs decided not to increase shootouts from three shooters to six shooters. However, they are still deciding whether to scrape the ice before overtime, with 58 percent of overtime games having gone to shootouts this season.

Trivia answer

Mt. Alvernia beat Monessen, 62-51, in overtime at Belle Vernon in last year's WPIAL quarterfinals.

SPORTS

High school basketball playoffs

Boys
Class AAAA
Semifinals
Tuesday

Central Catholic 53, McKeesport 46
Moon 69, Norwin 60

Championship
Friday
Palumbo Center

9 p.m. - Central Catholic (22-4) vs Moon (20-6)

Class AAA
Semifinals
Today
At North Allegheny

8 p.m. - Chartiers Valley (24-2) vs Blackhawk (21-5)

At Fox Chapel

8 p.m. - Hopewell (20-5) vs Greensburg Salem (21-5)

Class AA
Semifinals
Today
At Chartiers Valley

8 p.m. - Beaver Falls (21-3) vs North Catholic (23-2)

At Gateway

8 p.m. - Jeannette (18-4) vs Canevin (15-12)

Class A
Semifinals
Tuesday

Wilkinsburg 67, Bentworth 51
Serra 66, Union 45

Championship
Friday
At Palumbo Center

7 p.m. - Serra (24-2) vs Wilkinsburg (15-10)

Girls
Class AAAA
Semifinals
Tuesday

Peters Township 41, Mt. Lebanon 37
Upper St. Clair 49, Oakland Catholic 46

Championship
Saturday
At Palumbo Center

3 p.m. or 7 p.m. - Upper St. Clair (21-5) vs Peters Township (20-7)

Class AAA
Semifinals
Today
At Gateway

6:30 p.m. - Hampton (24-2) vs Indiana (23-2)

At North Allegheny

6:30 p.m. - West Mifflin (23-3) vs Chartiers Valley (20-6)

Class AA
Semifinals
Today
At Fox Chapel

6:30 p.m. - Sacred Heart (24-1) vs Ford City (20-6)

At Chartiers Valley

6 p.m. - Washington (24-1) vs South Park (19-8)

Class A
Semifinals
Tuesday

Monessen 48, Vincentian 45
Mt. Alvernia 47, Avonworth 38

Championship
Friday
At Palumbo Center

5 p.m. - Monessen (26-0) vs Mt. Alvernia (16-8)

Playoff lineups

GIRLS
Monessen - 48

Beveridge, 0-0-0; Minardi, 0-0-0; Mornak, 5-1-11; Stepoli, 5-0-10; Popovich, 1-0-2; Chukwuedo, 10-5-25; Diggs, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 21 , F - 6 (11), T - 48.

Vincentian - 45

Petrisko, 0-1-1; Marks, 1-0-3; Knapp, 3-1-7; Cortese, 7-1-15; Primyon, 4-0-12; Vector, 2-3-7; Spicer, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 17, F - 6 (9), T - 45.

Score by quarters:

Monessen	10	11	14	13 - 48
Vincentian	10	10	18	7 - 45

Three-pointers: Vincentian - Primyon 4, Marks.

BOYS
Wilkinsburg - 67

Poindexter, 7-0-14; Garland, 6-3-15; Smith, 6-0-13; Staton, 5-1-12; Washington, 3-2-8; Reese, 1-0-3; Cole, 0-1-1; Williams, 0-1-1; Murphy, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 29, F - 8 (14) , T - 67.

Bentworth - 51

Selvoski, 2-3-8; Jon Kennedy, 6-3-15; Joe Kennedy, 6-2-15; Bular, 4-1-9; Jansante, 1-0-2; Sevcik, 0-0-0; Clay Roman, 1-0-2; Chase Roman, 0-0-0; Hoye, 0-0-0; Day, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 20, F -9 (18) , T - 51.

Score by quarters:

Bentworth	19	11	11	10 - 51
Wilkinsburg	18	15	15	19 - 67

Three-pointers: Bentworth - Joe Kennedy, Selvoski. Wilkinsburg - Smith, Reese.

Sports moves

BASEBALL
American League

DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Joel Zumaya, RHP Yorman Bazardo, RHP Jordan Tata, RHP Virgil Vasquez, OF Brent Clevlen and OF Freddy Guzmanon on one-year contracts.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with C Rob Bowen, INF Kevin Melillo, LHP Dan Meyer, INF Donnie Murphy, INF Gregorio Petit and C Landon Powell on one-year contracts.

SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with OF Bubba Crosby on a minor league contract.

TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with 2B Ian Kinsler on a five-year contract.

National League

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Ron Villone on a minor league contract.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Odalis Perez on a minor league contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

DALLAS MAVERICKS—Waived F Nick Fazekas.

NEW JERSEY NETS—Traded G Jason Kidd, F Malik Allen and G Antoine Wright to Dallas for G Devin Harris, C DeSagana Diop, G-F Maurice Ager, F Keith Van Horn, F Trenton Hassell, two first-round draft picks and $3 million.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

NEW YORK JETS—Signed S Artrell Hawkins.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Waived LB Derek Smith.

Michael Beasley and Kansas State will face Nebraska at 9 p.m. on ESPN2.

Sports dial

Today
Television

2 p.m. - Golf Channel - WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship, golf.

7 p.m - ESPN - North Carolina at North Carolina State, college basketball.

7 p.m. - ESPN2 - Marquette at St. John's, college basketball.

8 p.m. - Fox Sports - Villanova at West Virginia, college basketball.

9 p.m. - ESPN2 - Kansas State at Nebraska, college basketball.

9 p.m. - ESPN - Los Angeles at Phoenix, pro basketball.

11 p.m. - Versus - Tour of California, cycling.

Radio

6 p.m. - WCAL (91.9 FM) - Shippensburg at California, women's college basketball.

8 p.m. - WCAL (19.9 FM) - Shippensburg at California, ciollege basketball.

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	34	21	5	73	161	143
Pittsburgh	34	21	5	73	177	161
N.Y. Rangers	30	24	8	68	157	155
Philadelphia	30	24	6	66	186	174
N.Y. Islanders	28	25	7	63	150	174

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	35	20	5	75	204	177
Montreal	33	19	9	75	192	172
Boston	30	23	6	66	155	160
Buffalo	28	23	8	64	173	166
Toronto	25	27	9	59	168	194

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	30	28	5	65	183	201
Atlanta	29	28	4	62	165	195
Washington	28	26	6	62	171	185
Florida	27	29	6	60	169	178
Tampa Bay	25	28	6	56	171	193

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	42	15	5	89	199	136
Nashville	32	23	7	71	181	172
St. Louis	28	22	9	65	157	164
Columbus	27	26	9	63	150	164
Chicago	27	26	6	60	166	169

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	34	21	5	73	169	163
Calgary	30	22	8	68	174	175
Vancouver	30	22	8	68	160	154
Colorado	30	25	5	65	165	166
Edmonton	27	29	5	59	164	183

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	37	21	5	79	183	155
Anaheim	33	23	7	73	156	157
San Jose	31	20	8	70	154	146
Phoenix	31	26	4	66	169	168
Los Angeles	25	34	3	53	176	205

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Tuesday's Games

Boston 3, Carolina 2, SO
Pittsburgh 3, Florida 2
Montreal 6, N.Y. Rangers 5, SO
Toronto 3, Columbus 1
Ottawa 3, Philadelphia 2, SO
St. Louis 5, Chicago 1
Nashville 5, Edmonton 4
Vancouver 3, Minnesota 2, OT
Calgary 4, Phoenix 1

Today's Games

Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
San Jose at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Washington, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Calgary at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

Penguins summary

Florida	1	1	0	— 2
Pittsburgh	0	0	3	— 3

First Period—1, Florida, Booth 18 (Kreps, Allen), 16:24. Penalties—Orpik, Pit (tripping), 2:16; Cullimore, Fla (holding), 6:00; Armstrong, Pit (tripping), 9:49; Booth, Fla (roughing), 16:28; Kennedy, Pit, double minor (cross-checking, roughing), 16:28.

Second Period—2, Florida, McLean 9, 12:18 (sh). Penalties—Mezei, Fla (hooking), 1:48; Booth, Fla (hooking), 10:53; Vokoun, Fla, served by Horton (smothering puck), 15:38; Mezei, Fla (holding), 18:26.

Third Period—3, Pittsburgh, Armstrong 8 (Malkin), 4:43. 4, Pittsburgh, Malone 18 (Whitney, Malkin), 16:40. 5, Pittsburgh, Malone 19 (Gonchar, Conklin), 19:37 (pp). Penalties—Staal, Pit (interference), 2:37; McLean, Fla (slashing), 12:40; Malkin, Pit (diving), 12:40; Bouwmeester, Fla (hooking), 18:55.

Shots on Goal—Florida 12-7-10—29. Pittsburgh 10-11-11—32.

Power-play opportunities—Florida 0 of 4; Pittsburgh 1 of 6.

Goalies—Florida, Vokoun 25-24-5 (32 shots-30 saves). Pittsburgh, Conklin 16-4-3 (29-27).

A—17,075 (16,940). T—2:26.

Referees—Stephane Auger, Dennis LaRue. Linesmen—Mike Cvik, Brian Mach.

PSAC standings

Men
Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
California	8	0	19	4
Edinboro	8	1	19	5
Clarion	5	4	13	10
Indiana	4	4	12	11
Slippery Rock	3	5	6	17
Lock Haven	2	7	2	21
Shippensburg	0	9	6	18

Eastern Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Cheyney	8	1	16	7
Kutztown	8	1	16	7
Millersville	6	2	17	6
East Stroudsburg	3	5	15	8
Mansfield	3	6	15	9
West Chester	2	6	11	12
Bloomsburg	0	9	8	15

Tuesday

California 72, Salem International 57
Edinboro 101, PS-Greater Allegheny 57

Today

Shippensburg at California (8 p.m.)
Indiana at Slippery Rock
Clarion at Lock Haven
East Stroudsburg at Bloomsburg
Cheyney at West Chester
Kutztown at Millersville

Women
Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Indiana	7	1	22	2
Clarion	6	3	16	7
California	5	3	18	5
Shippensburg	5	4	17	7
Edinboro	4	5	14	9
Lock Haven	2	7	7	16
Slippery Rock	1	7	7	16

Eastern Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Millersville	8	0	19	4
West Chester	6	2	15	8
Cheyney	6	3	10	13
Kutztown	4	5	11	13
East Stroudsburg	3	5	9	13
Bloomsburg	2	7	7	17
Mansfield	1	8	6	18

Today

Shippensburg at California (6 p.m.)
Indiana at Slippery Rock
Clarion at Lock Haven
East Stroudsburg at Bloomsburg
Cheyney at West Chester
Kutztown at Millersville

Cal U lineups

MEN
California - 72

Logan, 8-1-17; Hairston, 5-3-13; Brooks, 0-0-0; Banks, 4-7-15; Mbaye, 2-8-12; Sawyer, 1-0-3; Johnson, 0-0-0; Berenato, 3-0-8; Vaughn, 0-0-0; Colao, 2-0-4; Parker, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 25 (49), F - 19 (27), T - 72.

Salem International - 57

King, 2-0-4; Kennedy, 1-0-3; Dorsey, 4-0-8; Sinclair, 1-0-2; Carey, 3-5-12; Dunham, 3-2-9; Zmijanjac, 6-2-17; Powers, 1-0-2; Burnside, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 21 (54), F - 9 (13), T - 57.

Halftime score: 30-22, California.

Three-pointers: California (3-13) Berenato 2, Sawyer. Salem International - Zmijanjac 3, Kennedy, Carey, Dunham.

Big East standings

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Georgetown	11	3	21	4
Louisville	11	3	21	6
Connecticut	9	3	20	5
Notre Dame	9	3	19	5
Marquette	8	5	18	6
Pittsburgh	7	5	19	6
West Virginia	7	5	18	7
Cincinnati	7	5	12	12
Syracuse	7	7	17	10
Villanova	5	7	15	9
DePaul	5	7	10	14
Seton Hall	5	8	15	11
St. John's	4	9	10	14
Providence	4	10	13	13
USF	2	11	11	15
Rutgers	2	12	10	17

Tuesday's Game

Connecticut 65, DePaul 60

Today's Games

Marquette at St. John's, 7 p.m.
USF at Cincinnati, 7 p.m.
West Virginia at Villanova, 8 p.m.

College basketball

MEN
EAST

Connecticut 65, DePaul 60
Kent St. 76, Buffalo 66

SOUTH

Davidson 75, UNC Greensboro 66
Florida St. 64, Clemson 55
Kentucky 61, Georgia 55
Savannah St. 63, Stetson 60, OT

MIDWEST

Akron 56, Miami (Ohio) 52
Bradley 72, Drake 71
Creighton 88, Missouri St. 67
Indiana 77, Purdue 68
Indiana St. 83, Wichita St. 73, OT
Iowa 53, Northwestern 51
Ohio 69, Bowling Green 48

SOUTHWEST

Oklahoma 92, Baylor 91, OT
Oral Roberts 71, S. Utah 62

FAR WEST

San Diego St. 79, Wyoming 68

WOMEN
EAST

Boston U. 77, Maine 56
Providence 62, Syracuse 58
Rutgers 57, Notre Dame 51

SOUTH

South Florida 77, Villanova 66

Billiards

Donora Men's Pool League
Playoffs
First Round

Hoot Owls 14, St. Mary's 3
St. Dominic's 10, Ukrainian Club 7

Thursday

St. Mary's at Hoot Owls
Ukrainian Club at St. Dominic's

Bowling

Tan-O-Bell Lanes
Epiphany Men's League
Standings

Duquesne, 99-69; Villanova, 87-81; St, Vincent, 84-84; Notre Dame, 81-87; Holy Cross, 79-89; St. John, 73-95.

High scores

Anthony Manderino, 257-560; John Perozzi, 199-564; Tom Jones, 216-558; Lee Nicolaus, 192-546; Stephen Crisi, 203-537; Joe Gallo, 186-536; Philip Faraci, 180-502; Jim Peltier, 192-501; Robert Mascetta, 201-489; Nick Kostelac, 168-488.

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	41	10	.804	—
Toronto	28	23	.549	13
New Jersey	23	30	.434	19
Philadelphia	23	31	.426	19 1/2
New York	16	37	.302	26

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	34	21	.618	—
Washington	25	28	.472	8
Atlanta	21	29	.420	10 1/2
Charlotte	19	35	.352	14 1/2
Miami	9	42	.176	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	39	14	.736	—
Cleveland	29	24	.547	10
Chicago	21	31	.404	17 1/2
Indiana	21	32	.396	18
Milwaukee	19	34	.358	20

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	36	15	.706	—
San Antonio	35	17	.673	1 1/2
Dallas	35	18	.660	2
Houston	33	20	.623	4
Memphis	14	39	.264	23

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	35	19	.648	—
Denver	33	20	.623	1 1/2
Portland	28	25	.528	6 1/2
Seattle	14	38	.269	20
Minnesota	11	41	.212	23

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	37	16	.698	—
L.A. Lakers	36	17	.679	1
Golden State	32	21	.604	5
Sacramento	24	28	.462	12 1/2
L.A. Clippers	17	33	.340	18 1/2

Tuesday's Games

New York 113, Washington 100, OT
Houston 93, Cleveland 85
Orlando 103, Detroit 85
Minnesota 104, Philadelphia 88
San Antonio 85, Charlotte 65
Denver 124, Boston 118
Utah 119, Golden State 109
Seattle 108, Memphis 101
Sacramento 105, Portland 94
L.A. Lakers 122, Atlanta 93

Today's Games

Orlando at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Indiana, 7 p.m.
New York at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Chicago at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Dallas at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Atlanta at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Boston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Miami at Houston, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

Latest Line

BEST BET: Memphis has lost its last two trips to the Staples Center by a combined score of 227-181. The Grizzlies are also just 3-12 straight-up and 6-9 vs. the spread their last 15 games when playing the second of back to back nights. Los Angeles has struggled with injuries all season but the home team should be able to dominate a bad Memphis team tonight. Take the LA Clippers -8 for another Best Bet winner.

NBA

Favorite	Points	Underdog
PHILADELPHIA	6 1/2	New York
TORONTO	5	Orlando
INDIANA	2	Cleveland
a-NEW JERSEY	No Line	Chicago
Detroit	5 1/2	MILWAUKEE
a-N. ORLEANS	No Line	Dallas
PHOENIX	4 1/2	LA Lakers
SACRAMENTO	5	Atlanta
LA CLIPPERS	8	Memphis
Boston	1	GOLDEN STATE

a-Possible trade implications.

College Basketball

Favorite	Points	Underdog
NC WILM.	11	Georgia State
FLA ATLANTIC	4	Fla International
Temple	8 1/2	ST. BONA
b-TOLEDO	PPD	Northern Illinois
VA C'wealth	3 1/2	N'EASTERN
NC Charlotte	2	RICHMOND
WILL. & MARY	5 1/2	Drexel
G. MASON	16 1/2	Delaware
HOFSTRA	6	Towson State
Wisc Gr. Bay	2	YOUNGSTOWN
C. MICHIGAN	7 1/2	Ball State
WRIGHT ST	10 1/2	Detroit
Marquette	8	ST. JOHN'S
MICHIGAN ST	16 1/2	Penn State
C. FLORIDA	15	East Carolina
CINCINNATI	8 1/2	South Florida
North Carolina	8 1/2	N. CAROLINA ST
CLEVELAND ST	6	Wisc Milwaukee
Old Dominion	3	J. MADISON
MARSHALL	3 1/2	Texas El Paso
TENNESSEE	19	Auburn
TCU	11	Colorado State
TULSA	18 1/2	Rice
Mississippi St	1	MISSISSIPPI
FLORIDA	9 1/2	South Carolina
West Virginia	1	VILLANOVA
ARKANSAS	13	Lsu
Memphis	13 1/2	TULANE
ALA-BIRM.	4	Houston
Butler	4	ILL. CHICAGO
N. ORLEANS	5 1/2	La-Lafayette
Valparaiso	1	LOYOLA CHI.
S. ILLINOIS	8 1/2	Northern Iowa
Illinois State	9	EVANSVILLE
ST. LOUIS	6 1/2	Fordham
S. MISS	15	Smu
North Texas	2	LA-MONROE
Wisconsin	2	ILLINOIS
Kansas St	3 1/2	NEBRASKA
Duke	7 1/2	MIAMI-FLA
New Mexico	3	AIR FORCE
Texas Tech	1	COLORADO
W. MICHIGAN	12 1/2	E. Michigan
MARYLAND	9 1/2	Virginia Tech
CS Northridge	8	L. BEACH STATE
FRESNO ST.	6 1/2	Hawaii
PACIFIC	2 1/2	Cal SB
Cal Poly SLO	3	UC DAVIS
BYU	9	Utah
Cal Irvine	8	CAL RIVERSIDE
ELON	2	Charleston
E. KENTUCKY	6 1/2	Morehead State
GA SOUTHERN	19	The Citadel
Portland State	2	N. COLORADO

b-Game has been postponed.

NHL

Favorite	Goals	Underdog
BUFFALO	1/2-1	Tampa Bay
NEW JERSEY	Even-1/2	San Jose
WASHINGTON	1/2-1	NY Islanders
Minnesota	Even-1/2	CHICAGO
DALLAS	1/2-1	Calgary
ANAHEIM	1-1 1/2	Colorado

HOME TEAM IN CAPS

Mavericks glad to have Kidd back

Star point guard welcomes fresh start in Dallas.

By The Associated Press

So it ends poorly again for Jason Kidd, whose moodiness forced the New Jersey Nets to trade the player who brought them their greatest NBA success.

The Dallas Mavericks are sick of their own ugly endings. Maybe they and Kidd can script a better finish this time around.

That's what the Mavs are banking on after bringing Kidd back to his original team on Tuesday, landing the All-Star point guard in a deal that sent five players, two first-round picks and cash to New Jersey.

"We feel this inches us a little closer," Mavericks coach Avery Johnson said.

Nets coach Lawrence Frank calls Kidd a first ballot Hall of Famer, though not many of those get traded three times. But Kidd has left his previous organizations little choice when his personal problems started to outweigh his professional performance.

That started back in Dallas, where he was Rookie of the Year 13 years ago as part of a young core with Jamal Mashburn and Jim Jackson that seemed destined for greatness. But Kidd's feud with Jackson wrecked that, so the Mavs dealt Kidd to Phoenix, where he said he began to mature as an NBA player.

"When you talk about the first time around, the average age was probably 22, 23 years old, so we were one of the youngest teams, and when I left I went to one of the oldest teams," Kidd said of that Suns squad, naming players such as Kevin Johnson and Danny Manning.

"Those guys had been in the league and they showed me how to win. The big thing was just to understand how to win a game with 6 minutes left in the fourth quarter, not shying away from that time. Wanting the ball, make or miss being involved in the play to help the team win."

Jason Kidd

No team has ever handled that as ineptly as Dallas did two years ago. The Mavs were closing in on a 3-0 lead over Miami in the NBA finals, holding a 13-point advantage, but blew that and dropped the next three games to waste their chance at a first title.

The Mavs never got that close last year following a collapse that was every bit as spectacular. They won 67 games in the regular season but managed only two in the first round against eighth-seeded Golden State in perhaps the greatest upset in postseason history.

But with a move that clearly shows they are trying to win now, the Mavs are admitting that they were prone to another meltdown without doing something different.

"We really have also looked at our team since I took over, we looked at all three different years of playoffs and how we finished the regular season and playoffs, and we feel his skill set can help us hopefully finish the season stronger, finish games better," Johnson said. "And hopefully do a better job of closing out some series.

"He's going to help us because at the end of games he just knows how to win. He knows how to finish games and that's what we're looking for."

Two tough games for Lady Vulcans

The California University women's basketball team will be facing a tough 96 hours in the PSAC West.

It will start at 6 p.m. today when the Vulcans (18-5, 5-3) face Shippensburg (17-7, 5-4) at Hamer Hall with second place on the line.

On Saturday the Vulcans go to front-running Indiana (22-2, 7-1).

In Shippensburg's Lauren Beckley, California will be going against the PSAC's top scorer.

Beckley, a 5-9 sophomore, is averaging 23 points and set a school record a week ago with 47 points in a 76-69 win at Lock Haven.

Kristy Trn, Ship's current coach, held the mark with 45 points against Cheyney in 1993.

Besides leading the conference in scoring, Beckley is the top rebounder with 11 a game.

Shippensburg, which handed Indiana its lone league defeat, is coming off an 88-81 overtime defeat at home to Clarion.

California, meanwhile, snapped a three-game losing skid with a 94-44 romp over Lock Haven.

The Vulcans beat Ship, 100-74, four weeks ago with Kayla Smith (25) and Brooque Williams (23) combining for 48 points. Beckley was limited to 15 points.

Smith and Williams are fourth and fifth in the scoring race with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago

Chuck Wonsettler was named the Bentworth High football coach after serving two seasons as Don DiNardo's offensive line coach.

Charleroi's Stan Kemp was named the football coach at Lake Braddock High in Fairfax County, Va.

20 Years Ago

Ringgold rallied from a 40-24 halftime deficit to beat Connellsville, 75-60, and make the WPIAL playoffs behind Yancy Taylor's 21 points.

Mike Bright and Jimbo Malinchak both had 16 points in Monessen's 83-50 romp over Mon Valley Catholic.

Paul Williams scored 24 points in Charleroi's 75-47 victory over Frazier.

Steve Kovatch had 24 points in Belle Vernon Area's 82-65 loss to Laurel Highlands.

Bentworth wrapped up the Section 15 title with a 73-57 win over Chartiers-Houston behind Brad Miller's 22 points.

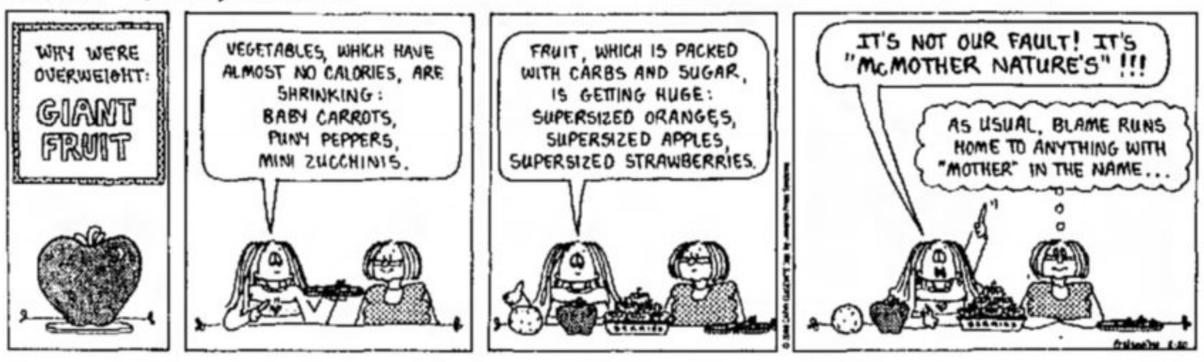
10 Years Ago

Sophomore Latitia Williams' free throw with eight seconds remaining gave Monessen a 49-48 win over Neshannock in the WPIAL Class A quarterfinals at Yough.

The Pittsburgh Steelers lost free agent offensive tackle Tom Myslinski to Indianapolis.

COMICS

CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite


WHY WE'RE OVERWEIGHT: GIANT FRUIT
VEGETABLES, WHICH HAVE ALMOST NO CALORIES, ARE SHRINKING: BABY CARROTS, PUNY PEPPERS, MINI ZUCCHINIS.
FRUIT, WHICH IS PACKED WITH CARBS AND SUGAR, IS GETTING HUGE: SUPERSIZED ORANGES, SUPERSIZED APPLES, SUPERSIZED STRAWBERRIES.
IT'S NOT OUR FAULT! IT'S "Mc MOTHER NATURE'S" !!!
AS USUAL, BLAME RUNS HOME TO ANYTHING WITH "MOTHER" IN THE NAME...

GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson

WE REALLY ARE LUCKY WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT!
WE HAVE FOOD, A NICE HOME, A KID IN COLLEGE! WE HAVE EACH OTHER—AND OUR HEALTH!
YEB BIR, WE BHOULD LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE!
OR WOULD THAT BE THE LITTLE PICTURE?

Classic PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz

MY GRAMMA SAYS SHE ALWAYS BROUGHT AN APPLE TO SCHOOL FOR HER TEACHER..
I'M WONDERING IF MAYBE I SHOULD DO THAT..
BRING HER SIX OR SEVEN, MARCIE, AND SHE CAN MAKE A PIE!
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
NOTHING, MA'AM..JUST IDLE CHATTER..
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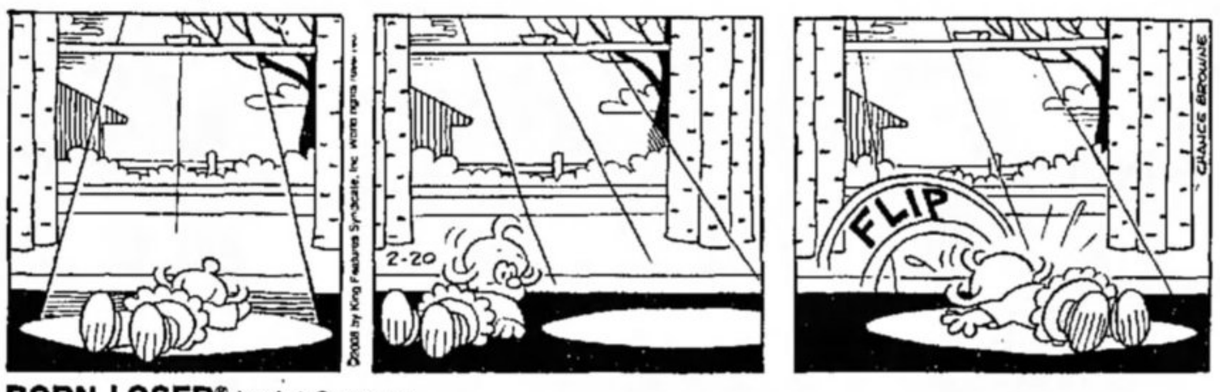
MONTY® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

WHAT'RE THEY WATCHING?
FROM WHAT I'VE OBSERVED, IT APPEARS TO BE SOME TYPE OF RITUALISTIC CEREMONY...
HONORED MEMBERS OF THE CLAN PASS A SACRED ORB AMONGST THEMSELVES AND THROUGH TWO SYMBOLIC WOMBS PLACED AT EITHER END OF THE RITUAL SPACE...
AND TYPICALLY A MIND-ALTERING BEVERAGE IS CONSUMED BY SPECTATORS TO FURTHER ENHANCE A TRANSFORMATIVE STATE OF AWARENESS...
WOOOO!
WUWOOO!
YESSS!
AND, AS YOU CAN SEE, THEY OCCASIONALLY JOIN IN A SPONTANEOUS, RITUALISTIC DANCE...

BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

WHEN WILL THAT REPORT BE READY, MISS BUXLEY?
WHEN I'M GOOD AND READY
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
I'M ALWAYS GOOD, BUT I'M JUST HALF READY
GREG+ MORT WALKER

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr

I RAN INTO AN OLD NEMESIS OF MINE FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND I COULDN'T THINK OF A SINGLE WITTY PUT-DOWN!
THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTERS...
THEY ALWAYS HAPPEN WHEN YOU'RE NOT EXPECTING THEM!

COW AND BOY® by Mark Leiknes

HA! HA! YOU'RE GOING DOWN, DUDE!!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
IT'S A NEW REALITY SHOW...
IT'S CALLED... "ARE YOU SMARTER THAN YOUR I.R.S. AUDITOR?"
I LOVE IT!... WHO'S NEXT?

FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves

I'VE DECIDED TO ROAM THE EARTH IN SEARCH OF MEANING.
TO STUDY MANKIND AND DETERMINE WHY WE CANNOT FIND ENLIGHTENMENT.
I'LL RECORD MY FINDINGS OF THE HUMAN CONDITION IN THIS JOURNAL.
OK, BUT WHY THE BEARD?
THIS QUEST FELT KINDA BEARDY.

HERMAN® by Jim Unger

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

kitncarlyle@comcast.net
I CAN'T STOP. MAYBE IT WASN'T A GOOD IDEA TO SPEND ONE OF MY LIVES AS A BOBBLEHEAD DOLL.
www.comics.com
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WE'RE NOW ENTERING THE "PACHYDERM'S GRAVEYARD."
LOOK OUT FOR THE ELEPHANTOMS!
SAVANNA SAFARI
E-mail: ThavesDrei@aol.com
©2008 Thaves / Dist. by NEA, Inc.
2-20 THAVES

SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski

BIG NATE® by Lincolin Peirce

HERE, I NEED YOU TO TAKE DICTATION. WRITE DOWN WHATEVER I SAY.
WHAT?
SINCE WHEN AM I YOUR SERVANT?
LOOK, FRANCIS, I'M A FOOD CRITIC! I CAN'T EAT AND WRITE AT THE SAME TIME!
OKAY, OKAY.
GOOD. TODAY'S MAIN COURSE IS... CHOMP!... TUBA CAFFEROW, AD... MUNCH!... ID TAFE MWO WUB NUMPF...
HOW DO YOU SPELL "NUMPFF"?
HM?

ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue

OOLA CONTINUES TO SEARCH FOR AN ESCAPE ROUTE FROM THE CAVE IN WHICH EARLIE OOP HOLDS HER PRISONER...
HMMMMM... WHAT'S THAT?
IT LOOKS LIKE LIGHT'S COMING IN!
WELL... IT'S NOT BIG ENOUGH TO ESCAPE THROUGH, BUT AT LEAST IT LETS IN A LITTLE LIGHT AND FRESH AIR!
2-20
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MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod

I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU PLAN TO GET ALL THIS MONEY YOU WANT TO GIVE ME IF I DON'T TURN YOU IN, AND I'M NOT INTERESTED!
THE POLICE WILL FIND OUT IF YOU TWO ARE BOTH CROOKS AND MURDERERS WHEN WE REACH THE COMMUNITY!
I KNOW YOU BOTH CAN FLY THIS PLANE, SO GET IN...AND DON'T TRY ANYTHING, I WANT TO GET YOU BACK ALIVE!
JACK ELROD

The Valley Independent Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Fine spray of liquid
5 Casals or Picasso
10 Dome
12 Raw deal (2 wds.)
13 In stock
14 Nth
15 They often clash
16 Miller or Blyth
18 Startled cries
19 PR matter
21 Dosage units
25 Composed
29 Red Sox rival
31 Blows away
33 Less trusting
34 "SNL" specialty
35 Like folk art dolls
37 Ms. Davis of films
38 Public spat
40 Maude portrayer
43 Oolong or pekoe
44 — Raton, Fla.
48 Cocoon dwellers
50 Thundered
52 Amaretto flavor
53 Reef formers
54 Humongous
55 Fleece

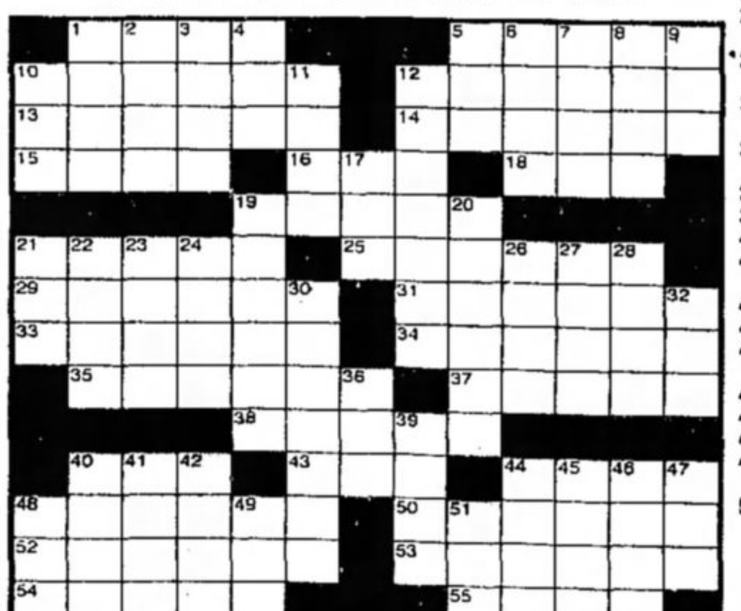
DOWN

1 Dangled
2 Lhasa —
3 Where tigers pace
4 Architect's wing
5 Move into a position
6 GI supply
7 It may be mopped
8 Damsel
9 Decide on
10 Billiard stick
11 — West of "Batman"
12 Stretchy cords
17 Snooze
19 Cays
20 Make furious
21 Wham!
22 Baha'i origin
23 Milan moola
24 Hi's comic-strip wife
26 Musical sound
27 McClurg of sitcoms
28 Bruce or Laura
30 Built, as a monument
32 Body of water
36 Kiki or Joey
39 Drug cop
40 "— Ha'l"
41 Funny Bombeck
42 Bard's river
44 Not clothed
45 Kind of hygiene
46 Ancient Briton
47 Yellow Pages
48 Fall behind
49 Social insect
51 Alley from Moo

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	I	E	D		E	R	E		Z	A	P	
E	C	R	U		N	I	L		E	T	O	N
T	H	A	N	K	Y	O	U		T	O	R	O
			K	E	A		C	H	A	L	K	S
T	E	R	S	E		I	I	I		L	Y	E
A	P	E		P	E	N	D	E	D			
M	E	A	L		R	C	A		U	T	E	S
S	E	R	E		G	U	T		D	A	L	E
			S	N	O	R	E	D		C	A	T
I	O	N		E	N	S		I	R	O	N	S
G	R	O	T	T	O		S	E	E			
O	D	I	E		M	O	U	T	H	O	F	F
R	E	S	T		I	R	E		A	L	A	I
	R	Y	E		C	B	S		B	E	N	T

GET MORE in the new "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" series from Quill Driver. Call 800-605-7176.



2-20

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FEATURES

Frugal Living

Sara **NOEL**

Using things to death

We live in a throw-away society. We're so wasteful that people known as freegans (www.freegan.info), an anticonsumer environmentalist group, can salvage and survive, by choice, on what mainstream consumers discard.

While they're often criticized as being extreme or downright nasty, I couldn't disagree more. I think it certainly reflects the amount of waste generated, and I'm pleased these items aren't simply tossed and going into landfills. Maybe to you it's garbage they're sifting through, but there's more to it. They're making a statement that goes against materialism and overconsumption. In a way, freegans are like soul cousins to tightwads. We both simply prefer to take advantage of the full usable life of goods.

Many frugal discussions on my forums (www.frugalvillage.com/forums) include topics such as using items to death. It's interesting to note the camaraderie among like-minded members. It gives me hope that we can make a difference. In order not to appear fanatical by carrying on about global warming, waste and poverty, I'll share a bit about wearing out common goods. I'm doing so to show you that if there's not a little frugality in you already, there easily could be. Why? Because it's simply the right thing to do.

LINENS: From comforters to towels, frugal-minded folks are holding onto these items until they're threadbare. It does my heart good to hear from one reader who has a 31-year-old comforter and another who has 27-year-old towels. It's not uncommon for these items to be used as rags for many years after their original purpose. While there isn't anything wrong with buying new, if an item has plenty of life in it or needs only a simple repair, there's no true need to toss it. What happened to this type of thinking?

CLOTHING: Remember when cutting jeans into shorts, patching them and then making them into quilts once they were unwearable was common sense? Winter coats weren't bought every year. Shoes that were worn out were used for outdoor work until they literally fell apart, and who had more than a dozen pairs? Clothing was bought as needed.

KITCHENWARE: Dishes and flatware were once passed down to children when they moved out. Now it seems everyone wants brand-new and everything immediately. They'll buy plastic this and that and toss and buy new on a fashion whim. While some appliances are wonderful for convenience, I can't stop shaking my head at the gadgets that are available. However did we get by without hot-dog and hot-cocoa makers?

I don't want my children to think I had to walk uphill 10 miles to school in a snowstorm, but I do want them to understand what is good enough. We have better use for our money such as saving or sharing it, and because I want my children to care about their impact on the environment, the economic state of our country and our humanity. What a concept!

To send tips, comments or questions, write to Sara Noel, c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or e-mail sara@frugalvillage.com.

CALENDAR WATCH

Thursday

■ Monessen Italian Heritage Society meeting, Epiphany Chapel Hall, 7 p.m.

■ Open house, Rostraver/West Newton Ambulance Service, (CAS base) 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ Tri County Borough Association meeting, American Legion Club, Houston, 7 p.m.

■ Take my Hand Bereavement Support Group meeting, Albert Gallatin Home Care & Hospice, Monongahela, 10:30 a.m.

■ Free tax preparation for low or medium income with special emphasis on ages 60 and older, Monessen Senior Center, (724) 684-6105.

■ Overeaters Anonymous meeting, Mon Valley Community Health Center, Monessen, 7:30 p.m.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Sweetheart Dance scheduled Thursday

A Sweetheart Dance with the Sounds of Country Band will be held Thursday at the Center on the Hill, Washington Township. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; the dance runs from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets will be sold in advance and at the door. Call (724) 930-8512.

Flea market, bake, soup sale planned

A flea market, bake and soup sale will be held 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the River Hill Church of Christ, 2105 River Hill Road, Forward Township. For information, call (724) 258-4660.

Civil War Roundtable set

This month's meeting of the Civil War Roundtable at California University will be held 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday in the Kara-Booker Great Room. This month's guest speaker will be Eric Duchess, history professor at Robert Morris University, who will lecture on Washington County politics during the Civil War in his speech entitled "The Homefront." Anyone interested in Civil War History is welcome to attend. For information, e m a i l stonewall1863@comcast.net or call Mike at (412) 417-1516.

Washington Twp. Seniors to meet

The Washington Township Area Senior Citizens will meet 7 p.m. Monday at the Center on the Hill.

Legion auxiliary to meet Monday

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 22 of Charleroi will meet 7 p.m. Monday at the post.

BVA boosters to meet Monday

The Belle Vernon Area Football and Cheerleader Booster Association will hold its monthly meeting 7 p.m. Monday at the high school.

Donora PTA plans skate night

Donora Elementary PTA will have a Skate Night 6:30 p.m. today at the Valley Skating Center, Donora.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: S equals K

"OC OGHS GICRO OWT KTTA DCM ETMDTYOUCK UK LGK UX OC OGHS GICRO OWT KTTA DCM GKCOWTM XETYUTX." - KCMLGK YCRXUKX

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "Accept that all of us can be hurt, that all of us can - and surely will at times - fail." - Dr. Joyce Brothers

(c) 2008 by NEA, Inc. 2-20

CRAFT OF THE WEEK

Enjoy spring flowers anytime

If you love fresh flowers, you're probably ready for the cold weather to break. After all, when it's chilly and gray outside, there's not much going on in the garden. If you enjoy decorative painting, however, you can get a head-start on fresh-flower season—and you don't need a greenhouse (or a florist) to do it.

It's easy to enjoy spring flowers anytime with the help of a full-color, 65-page guidebook, "Perfectly Painted Petals." The book includes 16 painted projects featuring 12 popular floral designs. Each project includes a materials list, illustrated step-by-step instructions and a color photo of the completed design.

If you're a beginner or just haven't painted in a while, a set of general instructions covers preparing surfaces, stenciling, basic techniques and more, while a big, pull-out pattern sheet makes it simple to transfer the designs. There's even a source guide to help you find the supplies you'll need.

Designs include "Iris" (pictured), "Anthurium," "Hibiscus," "Bird of Paradise," "Cacti," "Daisies," "Thyme, Oregano & Basil," "Water Lilies," "Wildflowers," "Roses," "Sunflowers" and "Tulips."

The "Perfectly Painted Petals" guidebook, No. LA22564, is $14.95. You can find 12 other decorative painting projects in a 40-page guidebook called "Paint-A-Pot," No. LA22588, available for $11.95. Please include $4.00 for postage and handling and allow about two weeks for delivery.

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Bild Features, c/o *The Valley Independent*, 3800 Oceanic Drive, Ste. 107, Oceanside, CA 92056. To order by credit card, call 1-800-828-2453. Visit U-Bild on the Web at craftbook.com.

Iris project

ENGAGEMENTS

Andreyo-McCuen

Carrie and Howard Yohe, of Donora, and Joseph and Christine Andreyo, of North Huntingdon, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Erica Nichole Andreyo, to Phillip Dean McCuen, son of David and Jeanette McCuen, of West Newton.

Andreyo is a graduate of Ringgold High School and is currently attending California University of Pennsylvania.

Her fiance, a graduate of Wilson Christian Academy in Mount Pleasant, is employed by Cleveland Price in Irwin.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Joseph Andreyo and Cheryl Smith, of Harrisburg.

Her fiancé is the grandson of James and Nelda Graham, of Connellsville.

An August 16, 2008, wedding and reception at Linden Hall in Dawson are being planned by the couple.

Phillip D. McCuen & Erica N. Andreyo

When submitting announcements ...

When submitting information for anniversaries, weddings and engagements, please list the first and last names of all people. We will not run items that list people, for example, as Mr. and Mrs. John Doe.

WEDDING ESSENTIALS
The Local Source for Weddings

To advertise your business or wedding related service in the Summer issue, call 724.779.6944

To subscribe to Wedding Essentials magazine, beginning with the July 2008 issue, visit www.pittsburghweddingessentials.com/subscribe Or fill out the form below.

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

To receive a free copy of Wedding Essentials magazine, complete this form and return it to: Wedding Essentials Magazine, c/o Trib Total Media, 535 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____
email _____@_____
wedding date: ____/____/____

1029387

A Very Special Way To Say...
Happy Easter
To Your Child, Grandchild, Niece, Nephew or Favorite Baby
www.valleyindependent.com
, 2008
L'il Cottontails

It's easy, just send us a cute color photo. Include child's name and a short personal message and mail to us by Monday, March 17, 5 PM. Your child's photo and message will appear on a special page Saturday, March 22, 2008.

PAYABLE WHEN AD IS PLACED

Fill in and Mail to Valley Independent, Eastgate 19 Monessen, PA 15062 — Send Cash, Check or Money Order.

Amount Enclosed_____ (Write Copy Below)

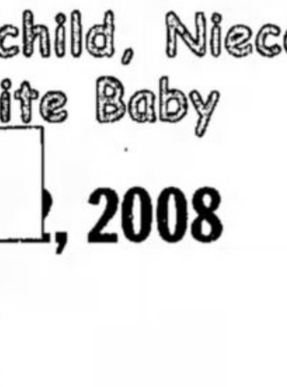
$25.00 2x3 (Photo) $15.00 1x3 (No Photo)

USE THIS COUPON WHEN MAILING PHOTO

(Print Complete Message) (Submitted By: Name, Address & Phone)

(Actual Size) Just $15.00

Christina



Happy Easter
I Love You!
Mommy

(Actual Size) Just $25.00

A Real Keepsake
THE Valley INDEPENDENT
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

EASTGATE 19 • MONESSEN, PA 15062
PHONE: 724-684-5200 • FAX: 724-684-2602

EASTGATE 19, MONESSEN, PA 15062
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-5:00PM

The Valley INDEPENDENT

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

CLASSIFIED

VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 724.684.5200 FAX: 724.684.2602

RECRUITMENT
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

MERCHANDISE
4 LINES • 4 DAYS
$14.30 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

GARAGE SALES
5 LINES • 3 DAYS
$18.65
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

SERVICE DIRECTORY
3 LINES • 30 DAYS
$59.77 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

AUTOMOTIVE
4 LINES • 26 DAYS
$34.78 PRE-PAY PRIVATE PARTY ONLY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

RUN UNTIL IT SELLS!
4 LINES
PRIVATE PARTY MERCHANDISE ONLY. NO BUSINESSES, AUTOS, BOATS, RV'S, REAL ESTATE, MOBILE HOMES OR APARTMENTS.
ASKING PRICE OF ITEM IS REDUCED EVERY TWO WEEKS BY 5%
$19.45 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

PRE-PAY WITH VISA

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Tribune-Review Publishing Company reserves the right to edit or reject any advertising copy and determine the correct classification of any advertisement. MISPRINTS: Notice of error should be reported to the Classified Department immediately. The Tribune-Review Publishing Company will not be responsible for more than the cost of that part of an ad rendered valueless by the error. CONFIDENTIALITY: Confidential box numbers – we do not disclose the name of any advertiser using our classified pages. Persons answering File Number ads who wish to protect their identity can do so as follows: Place your reply in an envelope addressed to the File Box at the Valley Independent Classified Department, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062. Include the file number and a list of firms or persons you DO NOT want your reply to reach. If the advertiser is anyone you've listed, we'll destroy your reply. NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, familial status or handicaps, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The paper accepts only recruitment advertising meeting EOE standards. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law.

1000/GENERAL

CIRCULATION ASSISTANTS
Opportunities to Join a Winning Team!

The Tribune-Review Publishing Company has open positions for Part-time Circulation Assistants.
Currently an exciting opportunity exists for the right individual. A chance to earn, learn and advance.

- Steady Part-time approx. 30 hrs./wk.
- Early morning hours
- Delivery & customer service skills necessary
- Work Independently
- Competitive wage & auto allowance

If interested call Ken Plamnsek at
724-850-2826
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND? CHECK THE PET DIRECTORY. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

CALIFORNIA MOTOR ROUTE DRIVER

- 68 Papers Mon.-Sat.
- California/Malden Area
- Approx. $850/month
- 2½ hrs. daily

CALL 724-684-2648

Ceramic Pipe Liner
Needed for local company. Prior exp. with refractory, ceramic or brick laying necessary. $11-$13 depending on exp. O/T available.

gs
M-F 9am-4pm
1-800-485-6502 EOE

CONSTRUCTION Laborers wanted immediate openings. Call Lloyd 724-735-4770 ext. 1

COOK- experienced dinner- 5-6hrs/day. Call or stop by for application. Teddy's Tavern 1305 Axton St. Belle Vernon. 724-929-5971

COOK part-time flexible hrs. for American Croatian Citizens Club. Donora. Call after 4pm 724-379-4871

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE? CHECK OUR CLASSIFIEDS. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

DAYCARE PROVIDERS
Mature persons needed for day & afternoon shifts. Serious inquiries only reply to Box 866 c/o The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen PA 15062 EOE

DOWN ROUTE DRIVER
Part-time position, approximately 25 hrs./week. Assist district managers with the delivery of newspapers to subscribers on routes that temporarily have no carrier. Must possess valid PA driver's license and reliable vehicle. Hourly rate plus mileage. Applications available at The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062 or email your resume to lhutchison@tribweb.com

DUNKIN DONUTS
★ NOW HIRING ★
ALL SHIFTS
Apply in Person
Rt. 51
Belle Vernon

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAIR? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

Fitter/Welder
Needed for local fab shop. Must have ability to read blueprints, layout, fit & pass a weld test 1st shift. $12-$13/hr.

gs
M-F 9am-4pm
1-800-485-6502 EOE

FOOD SERVICES
Charleroi Pizzeria looking for hardworking responsible individuals for delivery and management positions. Call 724-483-0500.

Full-Time
- COOK
- WAITRESS
- HOUSEKEEPING

Apply in Person
BELLE VERNON HOLIDAY INN

Heavy Equipment Operator
Entry level, to operate hi lift (loader) for Mon Valley facility. Forklift exp. Mon.-Fri. 4pm-2am. $10/hr. & O/T available. EOE.

gs
M-F 9am-4pm
1-800-485-6502

FOSTER PARENTS
Weekends are made for fun. Share your good times with children. FCCY is looking for weekend & full-time Foster Parents. Call
1-800-747-3807

HORSE STABLE HELP weekends. Must have exp. with horses. Clean, feed & turnout. Finleyville area. 724-986-0629.

HOUSEKEEPER PT, experienced & reliable only. Non-smoking. Call after 3pm 724-929-7010.

MH/MR Support Staff
Laurel Highlands Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, is currently seeking part-time and full-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton, and Elizabeth areas. No experience is necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr. after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri., 9-3pm. 412-825-9141.

LOOKING FOR compassionate & reliable HHA or CNA with at least 1 yr. exp. Must be flexible. Criminal background check & valid PA driver's license req. 724-258-4451.

MANAGER
Needed for hair salon. Full-time. Send letter of interest and/or resume in confidence to Box 892, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

NIGHT CREW
Part-Time
Needed at Giant Eagle, Tri County Plaza, Belle Vernon. Hours are 10:30pm-7am. Previous retail or grocery experience a plus. Call
1-877-EAGLEJOB

NOTICE TO READERS:
While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

NURSES AIDE
Full-time, Midnight Shift In Monessen
Call 724-684-8170

POT WASHER needed 5 days per week. 25-30 hrs. Apply in person at Rego's Restaurant, 601 McKean Ave., Charleroi.

SALES Associates PT & FT. Competitive wage, sales incentives avail. Customer service/retail exp. preferred. Apply in person. Cal Cuthbert Pools 733 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon, PA.

WAITER/WAITRESS experience preferred. Carriage Inn, Elizabeth. Please call 412-754-1647.

1010/ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Position with local financial institution. Part-time. Experience preferred. Flexible hours. Reply to Box 856 c/o The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

1015/AUTOMOTIVE

2 AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIANS
Chrysler & Subaru exp. helpful. State inspection & emissions license needed. Call John or Tony at Gerry Raymond's Automotive 724-379-7300

LOT ATTENDANT
FULL-TIME
Call & Ask For Dean or Tony
724-379-7300

1025/DRIVERS

CDL DRIVER- part-time/full-time. Clairton. Call 412-952-9850

★ DRIVERS ★
Immediate Openings
Class A & B Drivers
Local and OTR
Competitive Wage & Benefit Package
Also Needed
CLASS C LABORERS
Call 1-800-537-3152

1040/MEDICAL

Director of Nutritional Services
Long Term Care Facility seeking full-time Registered Dietician to direct the Nutrition Services Department, conduct nutrition assessments, care plans, MDS & other related duties. Qualified individuals may fax or send resume to

724-310-1195 (fax)
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 Stoops Drive
Monongahela, PA 15063
E O E

1040/MEDICAL

ORTHODONTIC OFFICE FRONT DESK SECRETARY
FT or PT position for multi-office practice in the Mon Valley & South Hills areas. Email resume to monvalleyortho@hotmail.com

RN's/LPN's
Looking for a rewarding job right in your back yard...

- Belle Vernon-Motivated vent dependent adult male in need of PT days with flexible hrs. and FT salaried evenings. RN $48,000 yr./LPN $41,000 yr. Male nurses encouraged to apply.
- Belle Vernon-Sweet & delightful 6 yr. old w/g-tube in need of Wednesdays for school 7am-6pm.

Call Krisha Now!
1-800-447-2030
EOE M/F/V/H

Interim HEALTHCARE

LOOKING FOR A DREAM JOB? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS
Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available.
Please call
412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, YOU DON'T NEED IT. CLASSIFIEDS

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

DONORA ROUTES OPEN
9th, W. 10th
W. 11th, W. 12th
22 Papers
No Collecting
Call Melissa At
724-684-2647

DONORA ROUTE AVAILABLE
22 Papers
Highland Ave.
6th St.
Saint Nick
No Collecting
Call Melissa At
724-684-2647

DRIVER WANTED
Rostraver Twp./Smithton

- 102 Customers
- Mon.-Sat.
- 2 hrs. daily
- No Collections

Call 724-684-2648

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

BAR & RESTAURANT, Charleroi area for sale. Serious inquiries only. Call 724-288-6674.

FINLEYVILLE MOTOR ROUTE
2 Hours A Day
Approx. $900 A Month
Call Melissa At
724-684-2647

MONESSEN ROUTE AVAILABLE
Coolidge Ave.
Mellon Ave.
No Collecting
Only 13 Papers
Call 724-684-2647

MYSTERY SHOPPERS earn up to $150 per day. Undercover shoppers needed to judge retail & dining establishments. Call 1-800-491-5378.

NORTH CHARLEROI ROUTE OPEN
Only 18 Papers
Highland Avenue
No Collecting
Call Melissa
724-684-2647

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Tribune Review
✓ California
✓ Bentleyville
✓ Ellsworth Area
Call Jason at
724-272-4437 or
Bill at 412-523-2306

4100/PERSONALS

4100/PERSONALS

4100/PERSONALS

AUTO DIRECTORY

A&L Motors
BMW
3780 William Penn Hwy. Rt 22
Monroeville, PA
877-252-6952

B Bogdewic
Chevrolet
The Little Guys in Bentlyville
724-239-2121

Century III
Dodge
911 Clairton Blvd. Route 51
412-469-2800

C. Harper
Autoplex
Rts. 51 & 71
Belle Vernon, PA
724-929-8000

C. Harper
Ford
Rt. 51 Belle Vernon
727-929-2900

Davies
Ford of Charleroi
Route 88-McKean Ave.
Charleroi, PA
724-483-5541

Davies
Ford of Connellsville
Route 119 N.
Connellsville, PA
724-628-2720

Elite Motors
Country Club Road
Monongahela, PA
724-258-5124

Franks Service Garage
Chrysler
57 E. Donner Ave.
Monessen, PA
724-684-9100

Gerry Raymond
Chrysler • Jeep • Dodge • Subaru
4803 Rt. 51
Belle Vernon
724-379-7300

Monongahela
Ford
210 Fourth St
Monongahela, PA
724-258-8800

Rainbow
Honda
Route 40 Richeyville, PA
724-632-6853

Rotolo
Dodge • Chrysler • Jeep
Rt. 88 Charleroi, PA 15022
724-489-9571
www.rotolomotors.com

Sedney
Buick-Pontiac-GMC Trucks
Route 88, N. Charleroi, PA
724-489-9547

Solomon
Ford
Routes 40 & 43
Brownsville, PA
724-785-5500
www.solomonauto.com

Solomon
Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge
Routes 40 & 43
Brownsville, PA
724-785-8000
www.solomonauto.com

Solomon
Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge
Sea-Doo • Ski-Doo • Can-Am
Routes 21 & 88
Carmichaels, PA
724-966-2600
www.solomonauto.com

Tregembo
Ford
170 Exit 32B
Bentlyville, PA
724-239-2200

Uniontown Toyota
650 West Main St. •
Uniontown, PA 15401
724-437-8422

Washington
Ford
507 Washington Road Route 19
Washington, PA
724-223-5100

Woltz & Wind
Ford
2100 Washington Pike
Carnegie, PA 15106
412-279-4551

3 Rivers Volkswagen
3694 Washington Road
McMurray, PA
724-941-6100

ASTRO ✦ GRAPH

Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday
THURSDAY, FEB. 21, 2008

PISCES
February 19 through March 20

With a little help from you, recent difficulties will begin to sort themselves out in the year ahead. Once you get things rolling, greater order and stability will be established in your life, and they will serve you well.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Your judgment is exceptionally keen at this time, fortunately, because you will be required to make a decision that will have far-reaching effects both for you and for others.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- It behooves you to put forth your best effort because that which you accomplish will not go unnoticed, and larger rewards than usual will be the result.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- When you look up and see others copying everything that you do, don't get upset. Remember that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Something in which you are presently involved will be producing a much larger payoff than you had experienced previously. Examine what you are doing differently so it can be repeated.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Without putting forth extra effort, you will find yourself getting along wonderfully with just about everyone. It'll feel great to just relax and be yourself, instead of having to cater to hard hearts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Your financial prospects look particularly encouraging at this time -- Lady Luck herself will be taking charge of your affairs. Do whatever you can to help her, because she won't stay around too long.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Those you know socially will prove to be rather fortunate for you, especially in situations where you could use a little help, such as arranging an introduction to someone you've been anxious to meet.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Whenever you place your destiny in the hands of your faith, things work out wonderfully for you. Be smart and trust in what you believe and not in what outward circumstances appear to be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Friends will play more important roles than usual in the outcome of your affairs. Don't hesitate to turn to them in situations where you could use a little assistance or direction.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Although your desires for material accumulation will be exceptionally strong right now, you're not looking for anybody to simply hand you things. You're willing to work hard to get what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- In addition to your good eye for detail, you also have other dimensions that could serve you well, so don't depend solely on minutiae. Your best bet is to use your ability to see things in their entirety.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Instead of being overly anxious about your financial situation, get out and try to do something positive about it. Solutions that could solve your money problems are circling all around.

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Mudron, Elma L.
ESTATE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in the estate of ELMA L. MUDRON also known as ELMA MUDRON deceased, late of City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, the Register of Wills has granted letters testamentary to the executrix named below. All persons having claims or demands against said estate are requested to present the same to the executrix or the attorney named below and all persons indebted to the decedent are requested to make payment without delay to the executrix named below.

Jacqueline Dabill
Executrix
1224 Rostraver Street
Monessen, PA 15062

Mark E. Ramsler,
Esquire
Attorney at Law
823 Broad Avenue
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
2/13,20,27

Sally, William M.
ESTATE NOTICE

Letters of Testamentary on the estate of WILLIAM M. SALLY, late of Wharton Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to

Cathy Ann Yartin,
Executrix
1400 Athalia Avenue
Monessen, PA 15062

Timothy M. Moalli,
Attorney
513 Schoonmaker Ave.
Monessen, PA 15062
2/20,27,3/5

Todd, Carl K.
ESTATE NOTICE

Estate of CARL K. TODD, a/k/a CARL KREPPS TODD, late of North Belle Vernon Borough, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

Letters Testamentary upon the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to those indebted thereto to make immediate payment and to those having claims or demands to present them for settlement

Pamela R. Todd,
Executrix
112 Mackey Ave.
Butler, PA 16001
2/20,27,3/5

2030/MEETING NOTICES

MEETING NOTICE

The Washington Township Zoning Hearing Board will hold a meeting on March 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., at the Township Building, for a special exception for Mary K. Sopko of 449 Marine St., for wholesale baking out of residence. The public is welcome.

Charles Hewitt,
Chairman
2/20

2060/GOVERNMENT NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

The proposed budget of the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 is available for public inspection to all persons who may interest themselves at the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Office at 102 Equity Drive, Greensburg, PA from January 23, 2008 through March 21, 2008. Said proposed budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors of the seventeen school districts comprising the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit for final approval.

Robert M. Gumbita,
Secretary
Westmoreland
Intermediate Unit
Board of Directors
2/15,18,20

4000/ADOPTION

ADOPT

Abundance of LOVE, secure future, musical family wishing to adopt your precious baby. Legal/Confidential Expenses Paid

Call Dale Eileen at 1-888-822-0146

4010/CEMETERY LOTS

4 LEVEL LOTS Mon Valley Park in Well of Semaria section near main rd. across from old school. $2,000 all 4. After 4pm 724-872-9221.

STOP IN YOUR PJS. 24 HOURS A DAY TRIBCLASSIFIEDS.COM TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

4070/LOST & FOUND

FIND SOMETHING? LOSE SOMETHING? Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 4 days at no charge. Call 724-684-5200

4100/PERSONALS

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE

No-Fault Uncontested
Reisman & Davis, Pgh
-No Court Appearance
or Travel To Office
-Free Information
1-800-486-4070 24Hrs

ALONE & PREGNANT?

A Confidential Caring Friend
Free Pregnancy Test
LIFELINE OF S.W. PA
Call Hotline 24 Hrs.
724-489-9020

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

HARLEY DAVIDSON leather & wool jacket XL, excellent condition, $124.00 724-872-0151.

5020/ARTICLES

OFFICE DESK- pecan wood, w/glass top, 2 large file drawers. 30W x60Lx30H. $300. 724-684-7310 after 5pm

POWER CHAIR- large, Quantum 600 with extras. $950. Call 724-483-3156.

TOYS and more toys, Bhoop, boy's bike w/training wheels, $25 takes all. 724-797-5759

5060/COMPUTERS

WORD PROCESSOR for sale. $35.00 Call 724-379-8019.

5130/FURNITURE

TWIN BED boxsprings complete, wooden headboard, still in pkg. unopened. $175/best offer 724-350-1748.

5150/HOME HEALTH CARE

ADULT potty chair never used, 3 walkers (one with wheels), $20. 724-797-5759.

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

5195/SPORTING GOODS

GOLF CLUBS Power Built new, never used w/bag, $256. 724-483-6724, 412-551-4848.

5220/WANTED TO BUY

$ $ $ $

Collector

BUYING GOLD & SILVER COINS JEWELRY & DENTAL GOLD PLATINUM & LIONEL TRAINS Highest Prices Paid

-- WILL TRAVEL --

724-258-4189

$ $ $ $

$ CASH PAID FOR $ Ham radio equipment, receivers, any condition. 724-326-4930.

A Cut Above the Rest Buying

STANDING TIMBER & LOGS

Free est. Highly recommended w/references in your area. 1 acre min. Call JE Logging 724-455-5723 or 724-322-0302

5560/DOGS - PUREBRED

LHASA APSO PUPS for sale $300-$350. Reg. aca. 1st shots. 724-330-2186.

5570/DOGS - MIXED

CORGI MIX 8 wks. old, brindle, 1st shots, dewormed. $75. 724-938-0666.

5600/LOST & FOUND

LOST white male Pit Bull, very friendly, answers to Frado, Conrad Ave., N. Charleroi. 724-470-6780.

6050/PARTS & ACCESSORIES

USED AUTO PARTS

At Affordable Prices

C&M AUTO RECYCLING MONONGAHELA 724-258-3553

6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

2002 CHRYSLER Sebring, loaded, sunroof, V6 fuel injected, low miles. $5,700. 724-823-0000.

RICH WEIDMAN AUTO SALES 724-736-2991 Route 51 S. Perryopolis

FORD 2001 Windstar Van has it all. Children will love DVD system. Hurry
Bargain Price.....$4299

GMC '97 Conversion Van High Top. Sharpest one in town
Bargain Price.....$5999

FORD '97 Explorer Sport 6 cyl., 4WD. This is a must see
Bargain Price.....$3699

CHEVY '95 S10 Pickup auto., 4WD, high miles, looks & runs good
Bargain Price.....$2699

CHEVY '95 Cargo Van 71,000 miles, one owner, new inspection. A rare find
Bargain Price.....$2299

FORD '96 Windstar Van 77,000 miles, new Inspection, nice van
Bargain Price.....$2699

OLDSMOBILE '96 Ciera 4 door, 89,000 miles, new inspection. Must see
Bargain Price.....$2699

CHRYSLER '96 Concorde family luxury, beautiful, one owner, 83,000 miles
Bargain Price.....$2899

LINCOLN '92 Continental very nice luxury ride
Bargain Price.....$2299

CHEVY '98 Cavalier 4 cyl., 5 spd., looks & runs good
Bargain Price.....$2299

PITTSBURGHLIVE.COM
NEWS
CLASSIFIEDS
SPORTS
ENTERTAINMENT
THE TOTAL WORLD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

REAL ESTATE

3540/APTS-RENT/FAYETTE

MULLIGAN MANOR APARTMENTS

Elderly Hi-Rise
Brownsville, PA

Accepting Applications for one bedroom units. All utilities included, initial occupancy and rental amount based on income. Maximum (flat) rent of $279/mo.

For appointment, Leave message at 724-785-2081 FCHA

3060/FOR SALE/WASH.

CALL FOR DETAILS

MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom, 2 story home in a great area that's within walking distance to school, public transportation & shopping! This home needs a family! Asking $52,900.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-929-2180

FALLOWFIELD TWP. by owner 1 ½ story, 2 bedroom on ½ + acre country setting. Great home for the do-it-yourselfer. Plenty of potential. Newer roof, furnace & AC, 2 car garage. $85,000. 724-938-3303.

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3060/FOR SALE/WASH.

STOREROOM on 1st Floor

Includes 2 apts. upstairs with separate utilities
LOCATED:
McKean Ave., Charleroi
$19,500
724-366-4946 or 724-438-4461

3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

CALL FOR DETAILS

WEST NEWTON One level living in this 2 bedroom ranch. Many new updates. Just move right in. $86,500.

MONESSEN Spacious 4 bedroom Cape Cod with hardwood floors, newer roof, windows & updated bath. Nice yard. $49,900.

ROSCOE Build your dream house on this beautiful riverfront lot. Call for more details.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-483-3004

CALL FOR DETAILS

UNION TWP. 2 bedroom renovated ranch with all newer mechanics. Reduced to $112,021.

MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom home with spacious rooms, deck & plenty of parking. Separate building for office or business-zoned C-2. Asking $119,921.

WASHINGTON TWP. Great investment property. Duplex, mobile home + 7 lots included in sale. $119,021.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-348-7470

3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

JERI'S JEWELS NEW LISTINGS

1. Lovely well maintained home in Historic Cement City, DONORA. 6 rooms, bath, basement, A/C. Immediate occupancy. $50's.

2. Packaging business in BRENTWOOD TOWN CENTER SHOPPING AREA off Rt. 51. All equipment & supplies, good income, owner will train. Sacrifice $65,000.

Call Jeri or Pam Drake 724-379-4292 COLDWELL BANKER TRI-COUNTY REALTY 724-929-8866

NEW LISTING

Solid brick Cape with 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, living and dining rooms, hardwood floors and ceramics. Finished basement, C/A and 1 car integral garage on corner lot. Home warranty. $83,000.

203 PROSPECT

Gorgeous newly remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 story. Updated kitchen, C/A and windows. Nice large rooms, formal dining room, beautiful stairway. Back yard with pool, detached garage. Home warranty. Reduced $70's.

NORTHWOOD REALTY SERVICES
724-929-1370

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3080/MOBILE HOME/SPACES

ROSTRAVER TWP.- 3 bedroom, 14x72, excellent condition. $16,500. Financing available. Call 412-384-7388.

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI

1 bedroom apt. Convenient downtown location. Secure bldg. Equipped kitchen, dishwasher, a/c, w/w carpet, laundry facility, community room, on-site parking. Applicants must be 62 yrs. or older & meet income guidelines. Call: 724-438-3089.

CHARLEROI

1 & 2 bedroom apts. for rent w/intercom, wall to wall carpet, washer/dryer. $325-$400. Security deposit. No pets.

724-292-1189 724-396-1140

CHARLEROI downtown full 1 bedroom, appliances, A/C & all utilities inc. $550+ sec. No pets. 724-244-2968.

DONORA- 1 bedroom apt., 1st floor, no steps. All utilities included including garbage. $425. Hud ok. 724-379-7327

MONONGAHELA- 1-2 bedroom, equipped kitchen, a/c, on bus line. Parking. $300+. Call 724-292-9001.

MONONGAHELA 1, 2 & 3 bedroom new private apts. w/fireplaces, by bus stop. $300-$480. 724-258-2473.

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND? CHECK THE PET DIRECTORY. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3560/APT-RENT/WMLD.

BELLE VERNON 2-3 bedroom, 1 bath, renovated ½ duplex, no pets, very nice & peaceful. $450+ utilities. 724-331-4418.

FELLSBURG Rostraver upstairs, 2 bedroom, A/C, appliances, yard, carpeted, no pets. 724-379-9628.

3561/APT-RENT/OTHER

MONONGAHELA

Modern 1 bedroom apartment. Air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, elevator, intercom, laundry, storage, security. Starting at $350 + electric. Call 412-257-0902.

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI 3 bedroom remodeled house, air, fireplace, fenced yard, private loc. $450+ utilities. 724-258-2473.

DONORA- 3 bedroom house, nice yard. No pets. $525+ utilities. Hud ok. 724-263-9050.

DONORA- 3 bedroom home. Stove & refrig., washer & dryer. $400+ utilities. No pets. Call 724-379-5728.

MONONGAHELA- 2 bedroom, central air, 2 car garage. $550+ utilities & security deposit. Call 724-258-5813.

NEW EAGLE small house for rent. Nice neighborhood & yard. $300+ utilities. Call 724-292-1088.

ROSCOE 2 bedroom, central air, large yard. Incl. stove & refrig. $485+ security & utilities. No large pets. Section 8 ok. 724-344-2775.

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

MONESSEN 2 to 3 bedroom single family. 3 blocks from Douglas School, students welcome. $375+ utilities. 412-537-9584.

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

MONESSEN 937 Graham Ave. 3 bedroom home. Soon will be Section 8 approved. Peaceful neighborhood. Move in condition. Stove & refrigerator will stay. 724-797-3903.

ROSTRAVER 2 bedroom, screened in back porch, 1 car garage. $550+ utilities. 724-823-0750.

3636/GARAGE/STORAGE

MONESSEN
1 Car Garage for Rent
$75 Month
Lease Required
Call 724-333-6042

3700/COMMERCIAL RE

MODERN OFFICE OR RETAIL SPACE

BELLE VERNON
719 Broad Ave., air conditioning, 1,500 sq. ft., off street parking.
MONONGAHELA
215 Chess St. 2,000 sq. ft. Call 412-257-0902.

MONONGAHELA 1,400 sq. ft. store room, off street parking. 1235 Main St. Best location in town. 724-258-4595

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAD? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

If we don't have it, you don't need it.

CLASSIFIEDS

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS 4100/PERSONALS

FIND IT FIRST IN THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT

Service Directory

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND BUSINESSES IN THE MID-MON VALLEY

AIR DUCT CLEANING

TRI COUNTY Air Duct Cleaning. Duct work cleaned & sanitized. Free video est. 724-483-3411.

APPLIANCES

WES'S Used Appliances
90 Day Warranty
$75 & Up
724-529-2863

APPLIANCE PARTS

CHARLEROI SWEEPER vacuums - repairs - parts. 618 Fallowfield Ave. 724-483-3397.

AUCTION SERVICE

STRICKLER'S Auction Service. Estates or consignments. 724-326-4050. Buy or sell.

AUTO SERVICE/REPAIRS

GRECO'S Automotive Services PA Enhanced emisson testing, remanufacture used motors & trans. installed, head gaskets, clutches, computer diagnostic major auto repair. Insured. 724-938-2911, 800-640-2902. ASE Certified

WEIDMAN TRANSMISSIONS Import Specialist, Domestic, heavy equipment & Allison Trucks Call Jim 412-384-4822.

BUILDING MATERIALS

RAILROAD TIES
All Grades & Sizes
Call 724-489-1180

BUILDING /REMODELING

S. MANGES CONST. - specializing in additions, decks, roofs, garages, siding, all home remodeling. Free est. Insured. 724-258-7722.

BUZZY BYRON siding, windows, soffit, fascia, downspouts & gutters, ptg., additions, plumbing, electrical, sewer cleaning & camera service. 724-684-8699 724-309-5130.

CCS INC. All home improvements. Free est. Calls will be returned. 724-348-6276.

CARPETING

CALL Carpeting Unlimited for a personal evening viewing of new flooring in your home. Carpet, hardwood, ceramic, cork, formica & vinyl. Tues. - Wed. -Thurs., 8am - 4pm or by appt. 724-258-4845.

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

MILLER'S Magic Carpet Cleaning. Whole house special $139*. Clean 4 areas for only $109. Powerful truck mounted units. 724-483-2370.

CARPET CLEANING

CLEANS GREAT & dries quickly. NO SOAKING! Call Tri County Chem Dry 724-483-9553.

CLEANING SERVICES

SPOTLESS CLEANING general housecleaning at it's best. Dependable. References. 724-872-1089.

GENERAL Housecleaning. 10 yrs. experience. Call 724-684-4507.

Classiified Ads Work. Call The Vally Independent Newspaper.

CONCRETE & BLOCK

Muccino Const. Specializing in driveways, walks, steps, porches, floors. All types retaining walls, block work. Free est. Insured 724-929-6028.

ELECTRICAL

JACK'S ELECTRICAL Contracting. Specializing in older homes. More than 25 years. Free est. 724-489-9109.

ELECTRICAL SERVICE/ SUPPLIES

O&O ELECTRIC- new & old work. Free est., fully ins. Alan 724-433-2183.

EXCAVATING

TUDAY Const. & Excavating. Concrete, driveways, sidewalks, garages, utilities, ditch work. 724-787-5064.

EXTERMINATION

COMPLETE Pest Elimination. Termites. Low Prices. 724-483-0450.

FENCING

DON'S FENCE chain link, wood, vinyl, hand rails & all your fencing needs. Free est. rea. rates. 724-929-3218.

FIREWOOD

SPLIT/ seasoned, cherry/ hardwood. 1/2 cord del. $65. B.V. 724-816-2630.

SPLIT, SEASONED 1/2 cord, $65 full cord, $130 Call 724-640-5277.

FIREWOOD well screened, cherry, oak, maple, unlimited quantities, $150 cord. 724-929-4458.

FLOOR INSTALLATION

ROBERT HANNAN vinyl, hardwood, carpeting, ceramic. Ins. Guaranteed. 724-929-4330.

FUNDRAISING

STAR FUNDRAISING, INC. Subs, cookie dough, fresh/ frozen pizzas. All groups. 724-547-8008.

GLASS BLOCK WINDOWS

PANELS done professionally to fit any opening. Very reasonable. 724-379-4255.

HAULING

CLEAN OUT whole house, basements, stores, attics, sheds. Scrap metal hauled. 724-483-2140.

PRIDE HAULING & Contracting Services All Types of Hauling Clean-Outs/Roll-off Dump Truck Service 724-938-2680 412-780-0862 Credit Cards Accepted

GENERAL hauling & clean-ups, cellars, garages, yards. Dep. Rich 724-872-0865, 1-800-566-4167.

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

MY Heating & Air Cond. Service, installation, sales. Authorized Rheem & Ruud Dealer. 24 hr. service, fully ins., free est. 724-797-3772, 724-938-3695.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

STASKO Restoration all your home needs. Int. & Ext. const. & renovations. 724-258-2473.

HOME REPAIR

HANDYMAN MATTERS Bonded & Insured. BBB. 724-258-4884.

INSURANCE

GOOD CREDIT - BAD CREDIT FOR AUTO RATES We know our rates Best YOU QUALIFY WITH US Let Us Quote You RAMSDELL AGENCY 724-929-4200.

LAWN MOWER REPAIR

BECK'S Repair all makes of push & riding mowers, rototillers, saws, snow blowers, gas & diesel farm tractors. Pick up & del. 724-258-4140.

LAWN SERVICE

LAWNS & shrubbery cut, trimmed, mulch, garden tilling. Free est. Ins. 724-258-3407.

MASONRY/CONCRETE

John Yurkovich Masonry. Retaining walls, sidewalks, patios, steps, driveways, chimneys, garages. Fully ins., free est. Over 11 yrs in business. 724-684-5014, 724-628-7349.

MOVING & STORAGE

FRETZ TRANSFER 724-684-8499, 724-929-6869 & Fretz Mini Warehouse 724-684-6602, Monessen. Local moving & storage.

HANDYMAN MATTERS - Randy & Sandy McMahon

PAINTING

BOB's - Professional painting at rea. prices. New home const., ptg. & staining. Sr. Cit. Disc. Fully ins. 724-929-6595, 929-9313.

M.V. PAINTING - Int. & ext. Experienced & Insured. Free est. Will beat any reasonable price. 724-929-1620.

INT. EXT. painting. Exp'd., insured, free est., affordable Michael Lundy 724-292-9004.

AFFORDABLE Ptg. Int. & ext. Free est. Fully ins. Mike Kanski. 724-872-6022.

PLASTERING

PLASTERING - New/repair work. Hardcoat/drywall fin. Barry Winters. 724-929-9765.

FANALA Plastering- 25 yrs. exp. Fully insured. 724-483-3712, 724-747-4373.

PLUMBING

GRECO PLUMB. Sewers opened, sewer, gas, water line installation, basement water proofing, water tanks. Prof. service. 724-684-4439, 379-8197.

PLUMBING CON'T

NEAL PLUMBING Registered Master, professional service. Fully ins. 724-258-0113.

QUICK RESPONSE Plumbing. Heat/AC. Registered Master. Certified gas line installer. Expert sewer cleaning. Ins. 866-732-4433 or 724-258-7724

WATER HEATER problems? Call Tom Patterson your Rheem Water Heater Specialist. 724-929-6797

LENDWAY & SONS - general plumbing. 724-348-4644, 724-379-4962.

Classiified Ads Work. Call The Vally Independent Newspaper.

REMODELING

PAGER BROS. Remodeling. Int. & Ext. 20 yrs. exp. Ins. 724-931-0521.

ROOFING

A.T. KOURY new roofs, roof repairs, licensed & insured, chimney work, gutters, free est. 724-684-6042.

ROOFING CON'T

LARRY'S CONT. reasonable, reliable, new roofs & repairs, gutters cleaned, prompt service. 724-483-3117.

LENDWAY & SONS ROOFING, siding, decks & additions. 724-348-4644, 724-379-4962.

AMERICAN Roofing & Remodeling. roofing, vinyl siding, garages & additions built. 724-379-7868.

JIM G's roofing, soffit, fascia, siding, Fully ins. No down payment. 724-258-6777.

You can advertise your service for as low as $59.77 per month. Call 724-684-5200.

SEPTIC CLEANING

MG SEPTIC & Drain Cleaning. Fair Prices. For professional service you won't want to miss! Call Joseph Manack anytime. 724-929-8152.

SNOW REMOVAL

SNOW REMOVAL & Ice Control. Cain's Contracting. Exp. Rea. Reliable. 724-489-4131.

STORAGE

A+ MINI STORAGE
5X10 $35 - 5X15 $40
10X10 $50 - 10X15 $55
10X20 $60. + Sales Tax.
805 Liberty Ave.
N. Charleroi.
724-483-6000.

TREE REMOVAL

TREE-CO big tree specialist. Trimming, log & stump removal. 724-929-4337.

TREE PRO- tree removal specialist. Best deals! Free est. Henry. 724-929-6097

3G'S TREES & stump removal. Free est., fully ins. 724-489-4180, 724-483-6205.

LAROCHE Tree Service- tree trimming & removal. Insured. Local 740-359-0906.

Call The Classified Department Today To Place An Ad

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PICTURES TO FEATURE YOU

on the job performing your service, as shown above. You can mail photos to The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa 15062 or email to lmajor@tribweb.com (please include your name & business)

Purchase our Special Edition Cookbook!

Get your copy of *From the Trib to the Table*, a collection of delicious recipes from our readers and local celebrities!

All proceeds from the cookbook benefit Operation Santa Claus, a non-profit organization that provides complete holiday meals to local families in need.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

Makes a Great Gift!

Pick up a copy for all the cooks on your holiday gift lists!

$18.00

$14.16 cookbook
84¢ tax
$3.00 Shipping & handling

Questions? Call 412.320.7941

Mail this completed form along with your check to:
2007 Operation Santa Claus Cookbook,
c/o Trib Total Media, 503 Martindale Street,
D.L. Clark Building, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____-_____

Number of cookbooks _____ x $18.00 each = $_____

Make checks payable to Operation Santa Claus

6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

2002 HONDA- 38,000 miles, moon roof. Very good condition. $8,200 neg. 724-684-8198.

GERRY RAYMOND AUTOMOTIVE

2006 BUICK Lacross #8286A, only 13K. Now $15,995

2004 FORD Explorer #7348A, 4x4. Great Buy. Now $13,995.

2007 CHRYSLER Pacifica #P725, leather, full power. Now $18,995

2004 JEEP Liberty Limited #8146A, 4x4. Now $15,995.

2007 CHRYSLER Aspen #8106A, loaded, like new. Now $27,995.

2005 CHEVY Malibu, auto, air. Now $13,995.

2004 CHEVY Impala LS #7561A. Now $12,995.

Rt. 51N, Belle Vernon
724-379-7300

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND? CHECK THE PET DIRECTORY. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

FLEA MARKETS & GARAGE SALES

5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

MONONGAHELA Indoor Flea Market Soup & Bake Sale River Hill Church of Christ 2105 River Hill Rd., Forward Twp. Sat. Feb. 23, 8-4. 724-258-4560.

SHOP IN YOUR PJS. 24 HOURS A DAY TRIBCLASSIFIEDS.COM TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

2005 TAURUS- 4 dr., 16K miles, leather. Extended warranty. $10,800. 724-938-3512

CASH FOR SCRAP CARS
C&M AUTO
MONONGAHELA
FREE PICK-UP
Paying $100 to $125
724-258-3553
1-800-954-3553

6100/WANTED TO BUY

LOSKO'S AUTO SALVAGE
Buying Junk & Wrecked Cars & Trucks
Selling Parts
Free Towing
724-785-7780

6100/WANTED TO BUY

JUNK CARS, TRUCKS & VANS
Wanted to Buy
-- $75 & Up --
Free Towing
SALVAGE 1
724-263-3755

6900/HOME IMPROVEMENTS

VINCENT BROTHERS CONTRACTORS
New Builders & Home Remodelers
Fully Insured & Experienced
724-326-4260

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, YOU DON'T NEED IT. CLASSIFIEDS

4100/PERSONALS

DIRECTORY
personal care facilities

FAYETTE CITY

COUNTRY CARE MANOR personal care at it's best! One level, separate Dementia Wing, all brick const.', country setting, 5+ acres. Affordable.
724-326-4909.

To Place An Ad

For Your Personal Care Facility, Call The Classified Dept. at (724) 684-5200 or Fax (724) 684-2602.

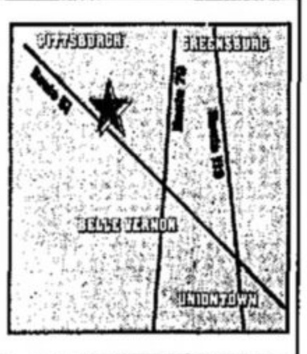
6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

Gerry Raymond's

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE

HOURS: MON., TUE. & THURS., 9 TO 9
WED. 9 TO 6, FRI. AND SAT. 9 TO 5

724-379-7300



Route 51 • Rostraver, PA
(Located across from Brunswick Lanes)

0% Plus Rebates On 08's, Special Rates & Rebates Available Up To 72 Months, On CHRYSLER, DODGE, JEEP
(Select Models Only)

LIFETIME POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

Prices include all applicable rebates, discounts & incentives, plus tax & fees

2007 DURANGO SXT #7449 4x4
MSRP $32,650
DISCOUNT $8,000
GERRY'S PRICE $24,650

2007 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD #7534 4x4
MSRP $26,830
DISCOUNT $7,500
GERRY'S PRICE $19,330

2007 PACIFICA AWD #7459
MSRP $28,820
DISCOUNT $6,000
GERRY'S PRICE $22,820

2007 CHRYSLER SEBRING #7545
MSRP $27,450
DISCOUNT $4,200
GERRY'S PRICE $23,250

ATTENTION MONONGAHELA

Ford

Service/Parts Customers

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